



1380.0.55.008 - Perspectives on Regional Australia: Business Owners in Regions, 2011

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Summary

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Introduction

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Introduction

INTRODUCTION

This article focusses on the group of self-employed people who own unincorporated businesses, the regions they live in, the industries they work in and the income they earn from their businesses. Because there are several sources of regional data about owners of unincorporated businesses, this article is also intended as a guide to the available data and an example of its use. Owners of unincorporated businesses represent a small but distinct category of regional labour markets and understanding this group can provide useful information for regional planners and policy makers who seek to address regional employment and economic issues.

Throughout this article, owners of unincorporated businesses are referred to simply as "business owners." It is important to note that there are also owners of incorporated businesses, who are not

analysed in this article. Legally, owners of incorporated and unincorporated businesses are quite different. Incorporated enterprises have a separate legal identity and are owned by shareholders, who have limited liability for business debts. In contrast, unincorporated businesses are not separate legal entities, so their owners are personally liable for any business debts incurred. Different sources of data are useful for analysing owners of incorporated and unincorporated businesses and links to further information about owners of incorporated businesses are provided at the end of the article.

Starting a business can benefit people by allowing them to create a source of employment that suits their skills and aspirations. For some people, owning a business may represent an opportunity to earn more money, have more independence over their work, or pursue greater opportunities than might otherwise be available (Endnote 1). Some people own their own business in addition to working for another organisation, using the income from their own business to supplement their salary or other source of income.

Business owners can benefit regional economies, not just through the outputs they produce and employment opportunities they provide, but also by contributing innovation to the local business community. Research has suggested that workers with higher managerial and entrepreneurial abilities are more likely to choose self-employment (Endnote 2), and fostering these abilities can contribute to economic growth by enabling innovative ideas to be brought to the market (Endnote 3). Business activity can add to the range of employment opportunities in a region, and has been identified as an important issue by Regional Development Australia Committees in many regions (A Review of Regional Development Australia Committee Regional Plans, 2013 (cat. no. 1381.0)).

This article begins by introducing the two main sources of regional data about business owners: Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) and the Census of Population and Housing. Next, Estimates of Personal Income data are used to examine which regions business owners live in and how much income they earn from their businesses. Finally, Census data are used to describe the average age and sex of business owners in regions across Australia and identify the industries they work in. Two types of regions, Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) and Statistical Areas level 4 (SA4s), are analysed. GCCSAs show the differences between greater capital cities and the rest of each state or territory. SA4s provide further breakdown of the GCCSAs and represent labour markets or groups of labour markets.

This article is part of a series looking at different aspects of human capital in regional labour markets. Human capital - the knowledge and skills with which people contribute to society and the economy - is considered a key determinant of regional economic development (Endnote 4). Human capital can be developed in various ways, including through education and training, by improving one's health and by obtaining new skills at work (ABS Research Paper: Measuring Human Capital Flows for Australia: A Lifetime Labour Income Approach, Feb 2008 (cat. no. 1351.0.55.023)). Running a business is one way in which people can develop and use their knowledge and skills. Other articles in the series look at the industries people work in and non-school education.

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KEY FINDINGS

Across Australia, more than one in every seven (15%) income earners earned some income from an unincorporated business in 2009-10. In some regions, however, including rural regions in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales, business owners made up over a quarter of income earners. On average, people tended to earn much less from an unincorporated business than from all sources of income. Census data indicates that less than half of the people who earned income from an unincorporated business did so as their main job. Of the people who ran an unincorporated business as their main job in 2011, approximately two-thirds of them (66%) were male and their median age was 47, about 7 years older than the average worker. Business owners who ran their business as a main job tended to work in construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing (especially business owners outside of the greater capital cities), and professional, scientific and technical services (especially those in the greater capital cities).

BUSINESS OWNERS

In Australia, there are many different types of unincorporated businesses. Some are run by individuals, while others are owned by groups of people through a partnership or a trust.

In the Australian Status in Employment Classification, used by the ABS, business owners are considered self-employed and can be either own account workers or employers (Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2013 cat. no. 6102.0.55.001). Business owners who do not hire any employees are considered own account workers and commonly include consultants and tradespeople. Unincorporated businesses which employ staff include many law and accounting firms (which are often run as partnerships), some tradespeople and some primary producers (such as farmers).

Some business owners, such as those who receive income from a partnership or trust, may receive income from their business without being involved in day to day work for the business.

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REGIONAL DATA ABOUT BUSINESS OWNERS

This article analyses two sources of regional data about business owners - the Census of Population and Housing and Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas. There are, however, major differences between the two collections, including differences in definitions and timing, which are important to consider when interpreting the data.

As the table below shows, the number of business owners according to Estimates of Personal Income is over 1 million more than the number provided in the Census. The main reason for the large difference is because the Census only includes people who work as a business owner in their **main job**, while the Estimates of Personal Income figure includes everyone who earned income from an unincorporated business income category in the financial year, according to their income tax assessment. This comparison suggests that there are many people in Australia who earn income from an unincorporated business, but do not work as a business owner in their main job.

For further explanation of the differences between the two collections, see the explanatory notes.

BUSINESS OWNERS, Selected Sources

State / Territory	Census 2011(b) no.	Estimates of Personal Income 2009-10(c) no.
New South Wales	270 234	597 753
Victoria	206 856	453 007
Queensland	170 665	380 536
South Australia	69 500	145 766
Western Australia	95 973	203 981
Tasmania	20 690	44 281
Northern Territory	5 800	12 840
Australian Capital Territory	9 200	21 662
Australia(a)	848 981	1 860 729

(a) Australia includes Other Territories.

(b) Applies to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(c) Applies to all persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business income category during the financial year, sourced from Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002).

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ENDNOTES

1. Daly, A 2011, Vocational qualifications, employment status and income: 2006 Census analysis, National Centre for Vocational Education Research, Adelaide. [<Back](#)

2. Shomos, A., Turner, E. and Will, L. 2013, Forms of Work in Australia, Productivity Commission Staff Working Paper, Canberra. [<Back](#)

3. Macroeconomic Policy Division, Economic Roundup Summer 2008, 2008, Australia Government The Treasury, viewed 19 June 2013, http://archive.treasury.gov.au/documents/1352/HTML/docshell.asp?URL=02_Entrepreneurship.asp. [<Back](#)

4. Regional Australia Standing Council, Communiqué, 5 - 6 July 2012, 2011, Department of Regional Australia, Local Government , Arts and Sport, viewed 19 June 2013, <<http://www.regional.gov.au/regional/councils/rasc/communique-5-6-july-2012.aspx>>. <Back

Business Owners in Australia

2. BUSINESS OWNERS IN AUSTRALIA

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- 2.2 Where Business Owners Live
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Business Owners in Australia

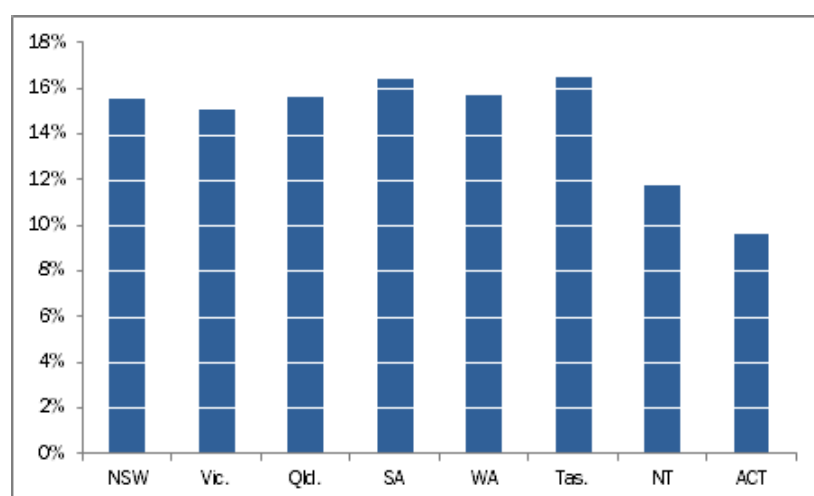
BUSINESS OWNERS IN AUSTRALIA

Unincorporated businesses provide a variety of employment options and for some people, owning a business is their main job, while for others it provides a second job or a way to supplement their income.

Overall, there were over 1.8 million business owners in 2009-10, representing just over one in seven (15%) income earners (from all sources) in Australia. Income earners from all sources excludes people who receive income from government pensions and allowances throughout this article (see explanatory notes for more information).

Of the states and territories, South Australia and Tasmania had the highest proportions of business owners, with just over 16% of income earners in both states earning income from an unincorporated business. The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest proportion of business owners, at almost 10%.

BUSINESS OWNERS, Percentage of income earners by state and territory(a) - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

Source: ABS, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-10.

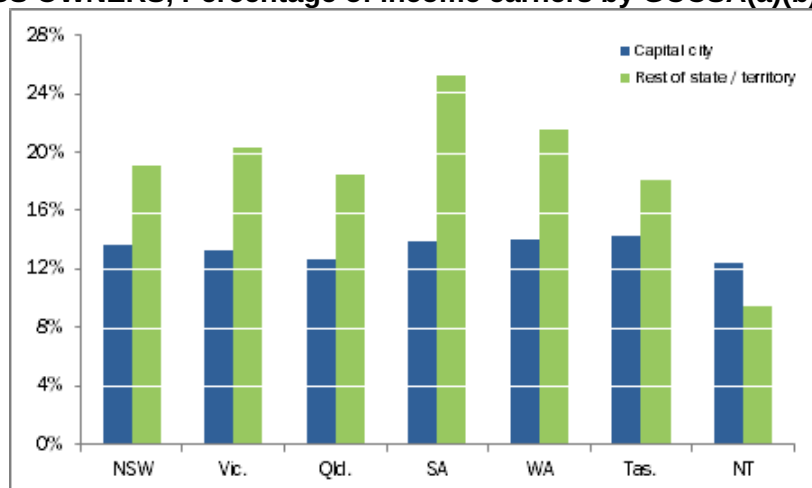
Where Business Owners Live

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

There were clear regional differences in proportions of business owners in states and territories in 2009-10, with lower proportions in capital cities than in the rest of the states and territories.

In capital cities, business owners made up the largest proportions of income earners in Greater Hobart and Greater Perth (both just over 14%). In the rest of state regions, South Australia (25%) had the highest proportion of business owners, followed by Western Australia (22%) and Victoria (20%). The Northern Territory provided an exception to this regional pattern, with a greater proportion of business owners in Greater Darwin (12%) than in the rest of the Northern Territory (almost 10%).

BUSINESS OWNERS, Percentage of income earners by GCCSA(a)(b) - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

(b) Greater Capital City Statistical Area, as defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011.

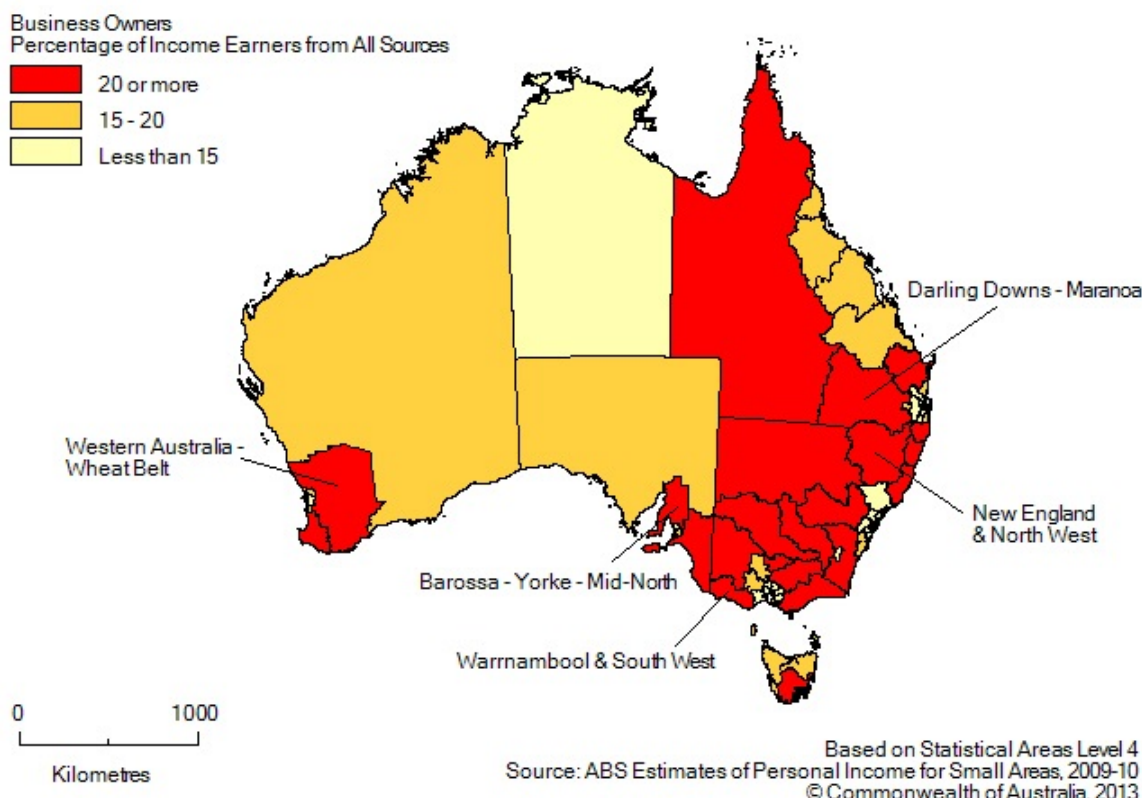
Source: ABS, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-10.

BUSINESS OWNERS IN SA4s

This section provides further breakdown of the capital city and rest of state regions, by presenting the proportions of business owners in SA4s throughout Australia.

In 2009-10, proportions of business owners varied considerably among SA4s, as shown in the map below. All states had at least one SA4 with a high proportion of business owners (20% or higher), and these can be seen in much of south-eastern Australia outside of the capital cities, as well as central Queensland and the southern part of Western Australia. (For further detail, see the maps provided for each state and territory, available at the links to the left of the page.)

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4 - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

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Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.), a rural region in south-eastern Queensland, had the highest proportion of business owners, with almost a third (32%) of income earners receiving income from an unincorporated business in 2009-10. Like Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.), many of the regions with the highest proportions of business owners were rural in nature, such as Western Australia - Wheat Belt (WA), Barossa - Yorke - Mid North (SA), New England and North West (NSW) and North West (Vic.).

Although Northern Territory - Outback (NT) had the lowest proportion of business owners, with 10%, most of the SA4s with the lowest proportions of business owners were located in greater capital cities, including regions in greater Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. Illawarra, which encompasses the city of Wollongong, and Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, both in New South Wales, were other regions outside the greater capital cities with low proportions of business owners.

REGIONS WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST PROPORTIONS OF BUSINESS OWNERS(a) - 2009-10

Top 10 SA4s(b)	%
Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.)	32
Western Australia - Wheat Belt (WA)	31
Barossa - Yorke - Mid North (SA)	27
New England and North West (NSW)	27
South Australia - South East (SA)	27
North West (Vic.)	27
Warrnambool and South West (Vic.)	26
Far West and Orana (NSW)	24
Richmond - Tweed (NSW)	24
Central West (NSW)	24
Bottom 10 SA4s	
Brisbane - South (Qld.)	12
Moreton Bay - South (Qld.)	12
Brisbane - West (Qld.)	12
Illawarra (NSW)	12
Melbourne - West (Vic.)	11

Brisbane - North (Qld.)	11
Sydney - Outer South West (NSW)	11
Newcastle and Lake Macquarie (NSW)	11
Sydney - Blacktown (NSW)	10
Northern Territory - Outback (NT)	10

(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

(b) Statistical Areas level 4 are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011. See explanatory notes for more information.

Source: ABS, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-2010.

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Income

INCOME FROM UNINCORPORATED BUSINESSES

Although 15% of income earners in Australia earned some income from an unincorporated business in 2009-10, this source of income only made up 6% of total income earned from all sources. Income from all sources excludes income received from government pensions and allowances throughout this article (see explanatory notes for more information).

In 2009-2010, people earned over \$37 billion from unincorporated businesses, compared to the \$588 billion of income earned from all sources (see table below). The contribution of unincorporated business income to total income varied little in the states and territories, ranging from 7% in New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, to 4% in the Australian Capital Territory.

When comparing the capital cities to the rest of the states or territories, there was no consistent pattern. Unincorporated business income contributed most to total income in the rest of South Australia, where it represented 9% of total income earned. However, in New South Wales, Tasmania and the Northern Territory, income from unincorporated businesses made a greater contribution to total income in the capital cities. In South Australia, Queensland and Western Australia, the contribution of unincorporated business income was larger in the rest of the states.

On average, people earned less from unincorporated businesses than from other sources of income. In 2009-10, the average (mean) income of business owners was \$20,023, compared to the average income earned from all sources, of \$48,530. This is not surprising, as it is likely that many of the business owners included in this analysis carried out their business as a second job or a source of supplementary income. Of the states and territories, the Australian Capital Territory had the highest average unincorporated business income, of \$25,297.

Although, as has been shown, greater capital cities tended to have lower proportions of business owners, average incomes from unincorporated businesses were higher in capital cities than in the rest of the states and Northern Territory. This regional pattern was also reflected in average income from all sources. Of the capital cities, Greater Perth had the highest average unincorporated business income (\$27,790) and Greater Sydney had the highest average income from all sources (\$55,010).

TOTAL INCOME AND AVERAGE INCOME BY REGION(a)- 2009-2010

Region	Total income from unincorporated businesses	Total income from all sources	Total income from unincorporated businesses as proportion of total income from all sources(b)	Average income from unincorporated businesses(c)	Average income from all sources(c)
	\$ million	\$ million	%	\$	\$
New South Wales	12 568	193 496	7	21 025	50 328
Greater Sydney	9 081	137 354	7	26 533	55 010
Rest of NSW	3 451	55 304	6	13 595	41 537

Victoria	8 747	143 507	6	19 309	47 623
Greater Melbourne	6 972	114 270	6	23 146	50 413
Rest of Vic.	1 750	28 740	6	11 670	38 995
Queensland	6 395	111 593	6	16 806	45 844
Greater Brisbane	3 223	57 567	6	21 675	48 895
Rest of Qld.	3 166	53 836	6	13 684	42 981
South Australia	2 921	39 394	7	20 042	44 312
Greater Adelaide	2 210	31 762	7	23 130	46 041
Rest of SA	702	7 564	9	14 029	38 213
Western Australia	5 050	69 547	7	24 757	53 397
Greater Perth	4 001	55 960	7	27 790	54 728
Rest of WA	1 003	13 012	8	17 245	48 234
Tasmania	747	11 192	7	16 860	41 542
Greater Hobart	360	5 265	7	21 237	44 358
Rest of Tas.	386	5 881	7	14 209	39 216
Northern Territory	261	5 604	5	20 294	51 366
Greater Darwin	197	3 672	5	23 278	53 747
Rest of NT	32	1 245	3	12 602	47 153
Australian Capital Territory	548	13 137	4	25 297	58 034
Australia(d)	37 257	588 141	6	20 023	48 530

(a) Greater Capital City Statistical Areas are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011.

(b) Percentages calculated on total figures not rounded figures.

(c) Average income refers to the mean.

(d) Australia includes Other Territories.

Source: ABS, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-2010.

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The average incomes earned from unincorporated businesses varied greatly among SA4s in 2009-10. The ten SA4s with the highest average incomes from unincorporated businesses were all located in greater capital cities, with Perth - Inner (WA) the highest at \$56,363, followed by Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (NSW) at \$51,373. Outside of the capital cities, the region with the highest average income from unincorporated businesses was Newcastle and Lake Macquarie (NSW), with \$24,090.

The ten SA4s with the lowest average incomes from unincorporated businesses in 2009-10 were all rural in nature. Two of these were located in New South Wales, four in Victoria and four in Queensland, including Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld) which recorded the lowest average income from unincorporated businesses, of \$2,675.

These results are likely to reflect various influences on average income. For example, there may be more business owners in some regions who carry out their business as a second job. It may also reflect the work that business owners tend to undertake in those regions. For example, income from businesses in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry may have been low in some regions in 2009-10, due to weather conditions or economic factors, such as global commodity prices and the value of the Australian dollar. For more information about agricultural production, see Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 7503.0).

HIGHEST AND LOWEST AVERAGE INCOME FROM UNINCORPORATED BUSINESSES BY SA4(a)(b) - 2009-2010

Top 10 SA4s	Average income (\$)
Perth - Inner (WA)	56 363
Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (NSW)	51 373
Sydney - Eastern Suburbs (NSW)	45 342
Melbourne - Inner East (Vic.)	39 787
Brisbane Inner City (Qld.)	39 006
Brisbane - West (Qld.)	33 755
Adelaide - Central and Hills (SA)	32 299
Melbourne - Inner South (Vic.)	31 725
Melbourne - Inner (Vic.)	31 445
Sydney - Inner West (NSW)	30 133

Bottom 10 SA4s

Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.)	2 675
Shepparton (Vic.)	6 602
New England and North West (NSW)	7 617
Fitzroy (Qld.)	8 036
Queensland - Outback (Qld.)	9 100
Hume (Vic.)	9 486
North West (Vic.)	10 097
Wide Bay (Qld.)	10 403
Murray (NSW)	10 476
Latrobe - Gippsland (Vic.)	10 719

(a) Average income refers to the mean.

(b) Statistical Areas level 4 are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011. See explanatory notes for more information.

Source: ABS, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-2010.

The contribution of income from unincorporated businesses to total income from all sources in SA4s varied from 2% in Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.) and Northern Territory - Outback, to 11% in Western Australia - Wheat Belt. Income from unincorporated businesses also made a large contribution to total income in Perth - Inner (WA), Barossa - Yorke - Mid North (SA), Adelaide - Central and Hills (SA) and South Australia - South East (SA) (10%). In most SA4s (63%), income from unincorporated businesses contributed between 5% and 8% to total income from all sources.

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Characteristics of Business Owners

CHARACTERISTICS OF BUSINESS OWNERS

The next sections of this article use data from the 2011 Census to provide more information about the characteristics, including age, gender and industry of employment, of people who work in an unincorporated business as their main job.

In 2011, males were much more likely than females to have a main job as a business owner, making up approximately two thirds (66%) of these business owners in Australia. This differed from the overall working population, of which 53% were male and 47% were female.

There was little variation in this pattern across Australia and between 63% and 68% of business owners were male in all capital city and rest of state or territory regions. The rest of the Northern Territory had the largest proportion of female business owners with 37%, while Greater Adelaide, the rest of South Australia, Greater Perth and Greater Hobart had the largest proportions of male business owners with 68%.

Business owners tended to be older than the overall working population. In Australia, the median age of business owners was 47 years in 2011, 7 years older than the overall working population. The median age of business owners was older than the working population in every state and territory. Tasmanian business owners had the highest median age, at 49 years, while the Northern Territory had the youngest business owners, with a median age of 46 years.

Business owners in capital cities were younger than those in rest of state regions in all states. The rest of Victoria and the rest of South Australia had the oldest business owners, with a median age of 50 years. The youngest business owners, with a median age of 45 years, were found in Greater Melbourne.

CHARACTERISTICS OF BUSINESS OWNERS BY GCCSA(a)(b) - 2011

Region	Percentage of Male Business Owners %	Percentage of Female Business Owners %	Median Age of Business Owners years	Median Age of Total Employed years
New South Wales	66	34	47	40
Greater Sydney	66	34	46	39
Rest of NSW	66	34	49	42
Victoria	67	33	47	40
Greater Melbourne	66	34	45	39
Rest of Vic.	67	33	50	43
Queensland	64	36	47	40
Greater Brisbane	65	35	46	39
Rest of Qld.	64	36	48	41
South Australia	68	32	48	41
Greater Adelaide	68	32	47	40
Rest of SA	68	32	50	44
Western Australia	67	33	47	40
Greater Perth	68	32	46	40
Rest of WA	67	33	49	42
Tasmania	67	33	49	42
Greater Hobart	68	32	48	41
Rest of Tas.	67	33	49	43
Northern Territory	65	35	46	39
Greater Darwin	66	33	46	38
Rest of NT	63	37	46	39
Australian Capital Territory	67	33	47	38
Australia(c)	66	34	47	40

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Greater Capital City Statistical Areas are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011.

(c) Australia includes Other Territories.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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Business ownership is an important source of employment for people in older age groups. The table below presents the proportion of employed people in different age groups who worked as a business owner as their main job in 2011. Younger workers in the early stages of their working lives were unlikely to run an unincorporated business as their main job, with only 5% of employed 20-34 year olds in Australia in this group. Business ownership increased with age, with business owners representing more than one in five workers (22%) aged 65 years and over in 2011.

The rest of Victoria and the rest of South Australia had the highest proportions of business owners among workers aged 65 years and over, with almost one third (30%) of employed people working as a business owner as their main job.

The rest of South Australia had the highest proportion of people working as a business owner as their main job in each age group, and this is consistent with the large proportion of business owners identified in this region using Estimates of Personal Income data in the section above.

BUSINESS OWNERS, Percentage of Employed Persons by GCCSA(a)(b) - 2011

Region	20-34 years %	35-49 years %	50-64 years %	65 years and over %
New South Wales	5	10	12	22
Greater Sydney	4	9	10	17
Rest of NSW	6	11	14	28
Victoria	5	9	11	22
Greater Melbourne	4	8	10	18
Rest of Vic.	6	11	15	30
Queensland	5	9	12	22
Greater Brisbane	4	8	10	19
Rest of Qld.	5	11	14	25
South Australia	5	10	13	24
Greater Adelaide	5	9	12	22

Rest of SA	7	13	18	30
Western Australia	5	10	12	21
Greater Perth	5	10	12	19
Rest of WA	6	11	15	26
Tasmania	5	10	13	25
Greater Hobart	5	9	12	23
Rest of Tas.	5	11	14	26
Northern Territory	3	7	8	16
Greater Darwin	3	8	9	18
Rest of NT	3	6	7	14
Australian Capital Territory	3	5	7	16
Australia(c)	5	9	12	22

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Greater Capital City Statistical Areas are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011.

(c) Australia includes Other Territories.

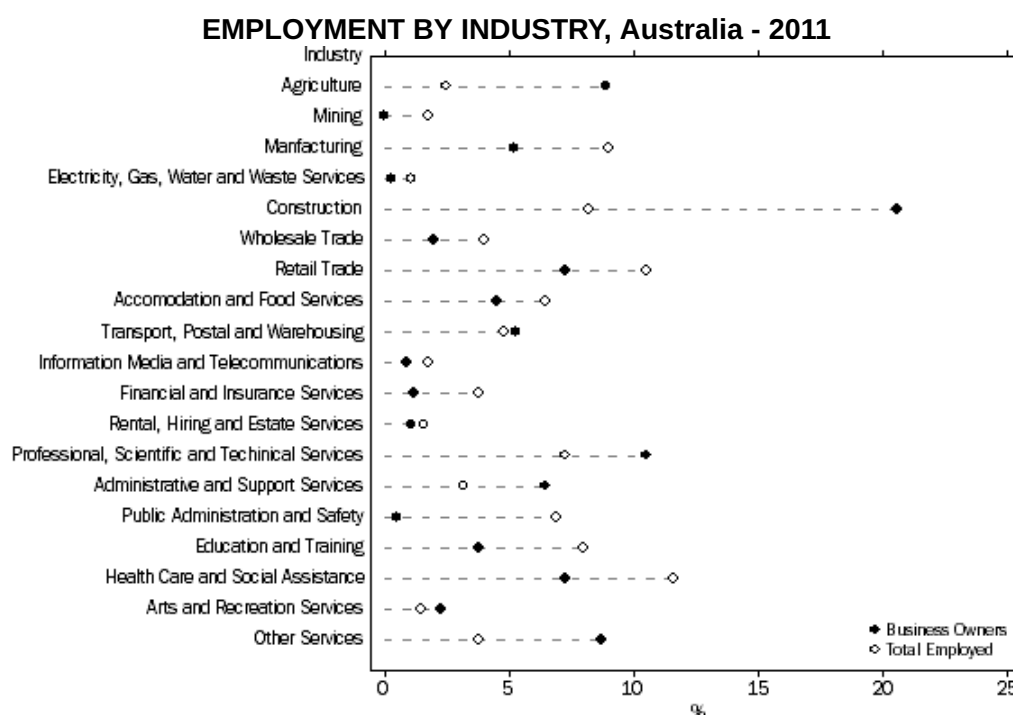
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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Industries of Employment

WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

Business owners tended to work in different industries from the overall working population, as presented in the graph below. Across Australia in 2011, the main industry in which business owners worked was construction (21% of all business owners), followed by professional, scientific and technical services (10%) and agriculture, forestry and fishing (9%). This differed from the main industries of employment in Australia, which were health care and social assistance (12%), retail trade (11%) and manufacturing (9%). Nine percent of business owners worked in the other services industry, providing a diverse range of services, including hairdressing and beauty services and automotive repair and maintenance.



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing 2011.

REGIONAL VARIATION IN INDUSTRIES OF EMPLOYMENT

As the table below shows, while the proportion of business owners working in the construction industry was high in all regions in 2011, there were clear regional differences in some industries such as agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services.

Greater Darwin had the highest proportion of business owners in the construction industry (27%) followed by Greater Perth (26%). The rest of South Australia (16%) and Greater Sydney (17%) had the lowest proportion of business owners in construction.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in the construction industry grew in some regions, such as the rest of the Northern Territory (by 19%), and fell in others such as the Australian Capital Territory (by 12%). This differed from the overall number of workers employed in construction, which increased between 2006 and 2011 in all regions. The number of construction workers increased most in the rest of Western Australia (by 40%) and least in Greater Sydney and the rest of New South Wales (both 8%).

Unsurprisingly, the proportion of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing was much higher in rest of state and territory regions than in the capital cities. The region with the largest proportion of business owners in this industry was the rest of South Australia (35%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased in all regions, except the rest of the Northern Territory, where it grew by 17%, from 130 to 152 people. The number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing fell most in the Australian Capital Territory (27%, from 113 to 82), Greater Darwin (24%, from 172 to 131) and the rest of Western Australia (22%, from 8410 to 6600). The decrease in the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing reflected changes in employment among the overall working population in most regions, as the number of people who worked in this industry declined in all regions except Greater Hobart, where there was a small (2%) increase, from 1488 to 1514 people.

Capital cities had higher proportions of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services than rest of state regions. Greater Sydney had the highest proportion (15%), while the rest of South Australia had the lowest proportion (3%).

The number of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services grew in all regions between 2006 and 2011, with the fastest growth in the rest of the Northern Territory (41%), the rest of Western Australia (24%) and in the rest of South Australia (23%). This increase was part of an overall increase in the number of people working in professional, scientific and technical services, which increased in every region, especially Greater Perth (34%), the rest of Western Australia (31%) and Greater Brisbane (30%).

The proportion of business owners who worked in other services as their main job was similar in capital city and rest of state and territory regions and ranged from 7% in the rest of Western Australia to 10% in Greater Brisbane, Greater Adelaide and the rest of the Northern Territory. These business owners provided services such as hairdressing and beauty services and automotive repair and maintenance, which are important in every community and therefore tended to be present in similar proportions in most regions.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners who worked in other services increased in all regions and this reflected increases in overall employment in other services.

EMPLOYMENT IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES, Percentage of Business Owners by GCCSA(a)(b) - 2011

Region	Agriculture, Construction Forestry and Fishing	Other Services	Professional, Administrative Scientific and Technical Services	Health Care and Social Assistance	Retail Trade	Other Industries(c)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
New South Wales						

Greater Sydney	1	17	8	15	7	9	8	32
Rest of NSW	18	20	8	7	6	7	8	24
Victoria								
Greater Melbourne	1	21	9	14	7	9	7	28
Rest of Vic.	26	20	8	6	5	5	7	21
Queensland								
Greater Brisbane	2	21	10	12	8	8	7	29
Rest of Qld.	13	21	9	8	7	6	7	26
South Australia								
Greater Adelaide	3	23	10	10	7	9	7	28
Rest of SA	35	16	8	3	5	4	8	19
Western Australia								
Greater Perth	1	26	9	11	7	7	7	30
Rest of WA	27	21	7	5	5	4	7	22
Tasmania								
Greater Hobart	3	24	9	11	5	9	9	28
Rest of Tas.	17	20	9	6	5	6	9	26
Northern Territory								
Greater Darwin	3	27	9	10	8	7	6	28
Rest of NT	8	22	10	7	7	7	7	29
Australian Capital Territory	1	24	8	14	7	9	6	29
Australia(d)	9	21	9	10	7	7	7	27

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Greater Capital City Statistical Areas are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011.

(c) Other Industries includes: mining; manufacturing; electricity, gas, water and waste services; wholesale trade; accommodation and food services; transport, postal and warehousing; information media and telecommunications; financial and insurance services; rental, hiring and real estate services; public administration and safety; education and training and arts and recreation services. Although some of these industries are important sources of employment for Australia's overall working population, none of these industries represented a major source of employment for business owners. Each of these industries accounted for less than 6% of the business owners in Australia in 2011.

(d) Australia includes Other Territories.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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MAIN INDUSTRIES OF EMPLOYMENT

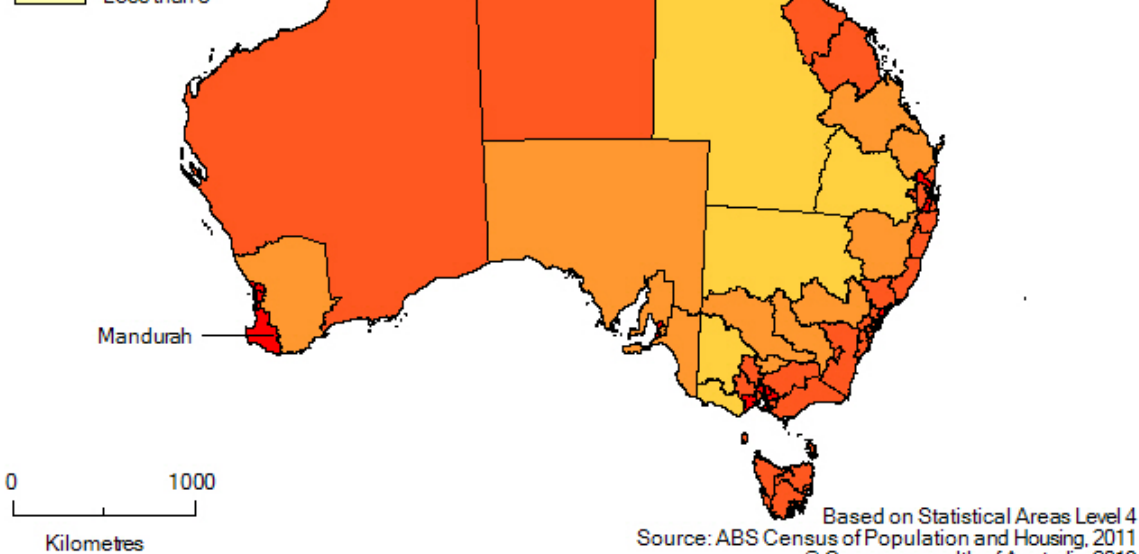
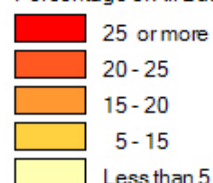
This section presents the regional pattern of employment of business owners in the three major industries in which business owners worked, in 2011, as their main job: construction; agriculture, forestry and fishing; and professional, scientific and technical services. For each SA4, data for all industries are provided in the datacube available on the downloads tab.

Construction

In Australia in 2011, 21% of business owners worked in the construction industry. These business owners provided services such as house construction, carpentry, painting and decorating, electrical, plumbing, tiling and carpeting and landscape construction. Among SA4s, the proportion of business owners who worked in construction varied considerably, from 8% in Sydney - City and Inner South (NSW) to 34% in Mandurah (WA), south of Perth. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in construction were located in and around capital cities, in rural Western Australia and in the Northern Territory.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a) - 2011

**Business Owners, in Construction
Percentage of All Business Owners**



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners working in the construction industry are shown in the table below. Business owners in these regions mainly worked in house construction and bricklaying, electrical, carpentry, and painting and decorating services. All of these SA4s were located in capital cities, except Bunbury (WA), which is located south of Perth in Western Australia.

**PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY,
Highest SA4s(a)(b) - 2011**

Top 10 SA4s	%
Mandurah (WA)	34
Perth - North West (WA)	31
Mornington Peninsula (Vic.)	31
Logan - Beaudesert (Qld.)	30
Melbourne - Outer East (Vic.)	29
Moreton Bay - North (Qld.)	28
Adelaide - North (SA)	27
Bunbury (WA)	27
Darwin (NT)	27
Adelaide - South (SA)	27

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Statistical Areas level 4 are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011. See explanatory notes for more information.

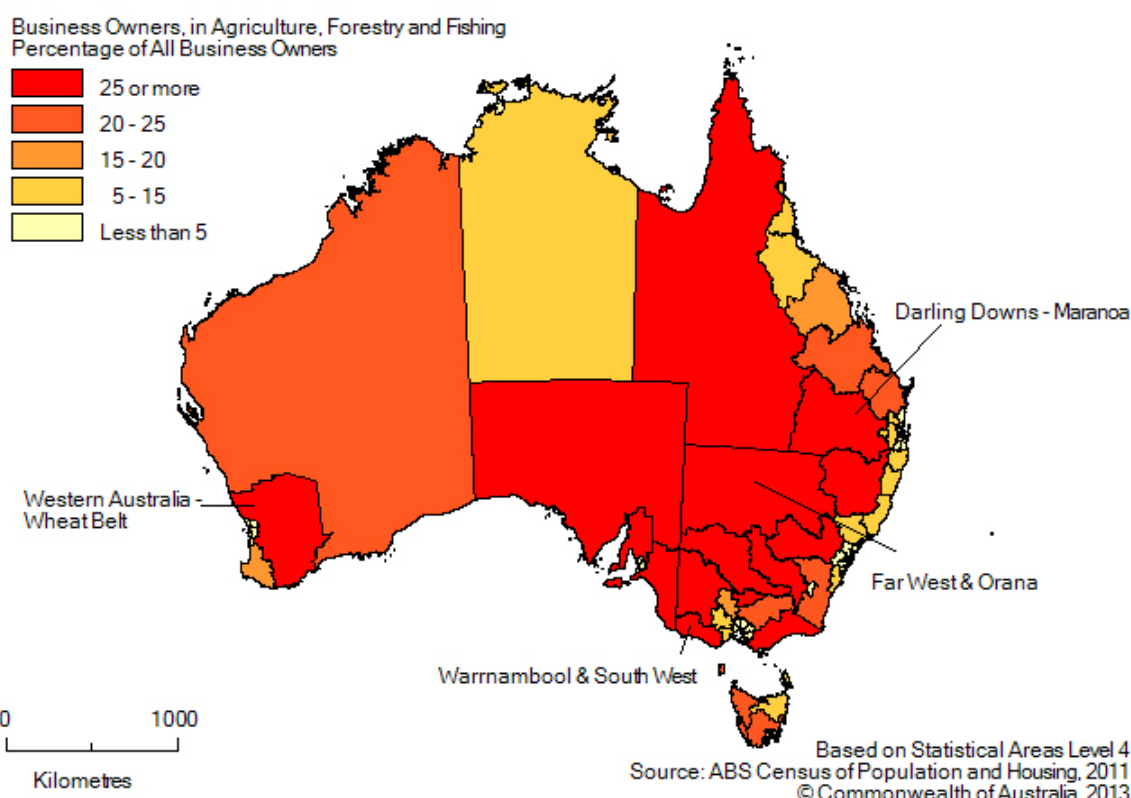
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Nine percent of business owners in Australia worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing in 2011. These business owners managed farms which mainly produced commodities such as beef cattle, sheep, dairy cattle and grains such as wheat and barley. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing were located in rest of state and territory regions throughout Australia.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a) - 2011



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing are shown below. Darling Downs - Maranoa, a rural region in south eastern Queensland which produces cattle, cotton and wheat, had the highest proportion of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing (46%). Warrnambool and South West (Vic.), where business owners mainly farmed dairy cattle, beef cattle and sheep, had the second highest proportion of business owners in agriculture forestry and fishing (45%).

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY, Highest SA4s(a)(b) - 2011

Top 10 SA4s	%
Darling Downs - Maranoa (Qld.)	46
Warrnambool and South West (Vic.)	45
North West (Vic.)	43
Western Australia - Wheat Belt (WA)	42
Queensland - Outback (Qld.)	39
Far West and Orana (NSW)	39
Barossa - Yorke - Mid North (SA)	37
New England and North West (NSW)	35
Riverina (NSW)	34
South Australia - Outback (SA)	34

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Statistical Areas level 4 are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011. See explanatory notes for more information.

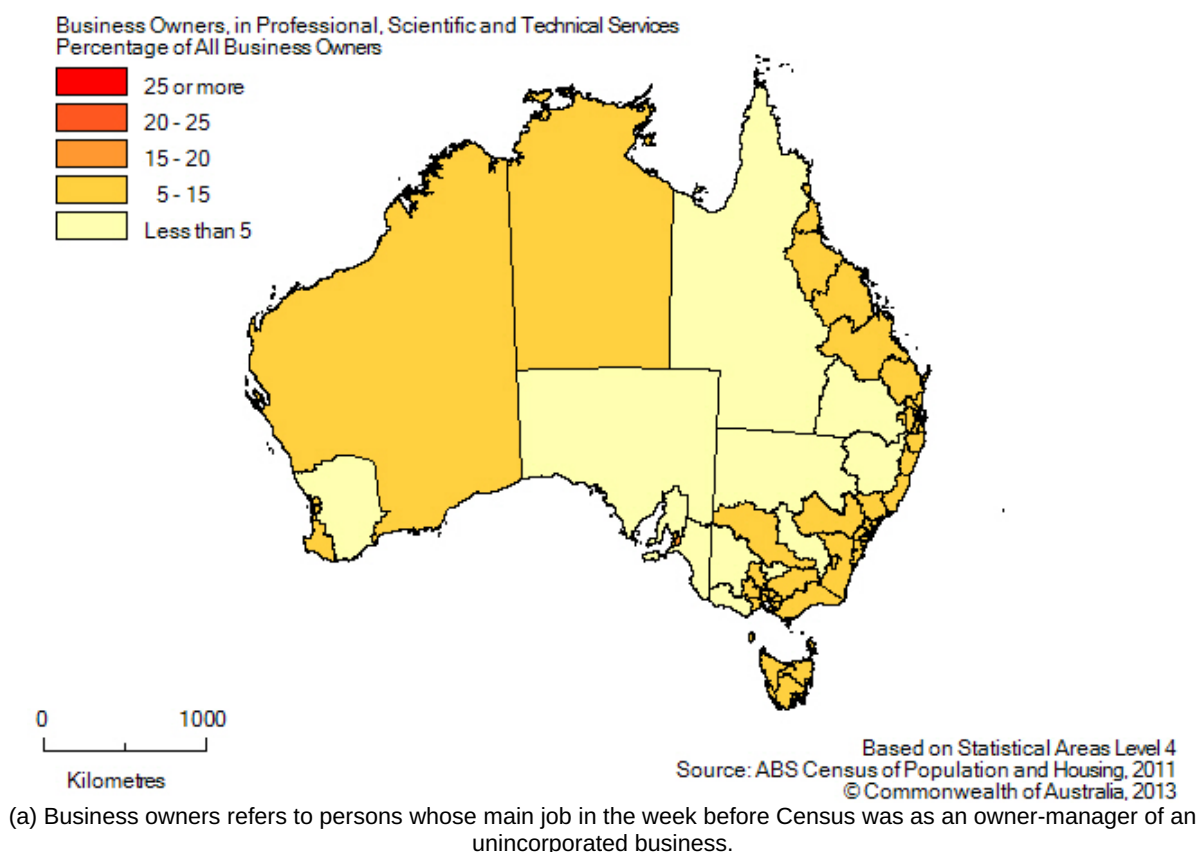
Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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Professional, scientific and technical services

In 2011, 10% of Australian business owners worked in the professional, scientific and technical services industry. These business owners provided services such as accounting, legal, computer system design, management advice and consulting services. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services were located in capital cities (see the state and territory maps for further detail). Professional, scientific and technical services accounted for between 2% of business owners in Queensland - Outback (Qld.) and 27% in Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (NSW).

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY BY SA4(a) - 2011



Most of the SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services in 2011, presented in the table below, were located in the capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. The types of professional, scientific and technical services provided by business owners in these regions mainly included legal and accounting services. This was the case in Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby, where over a quarter (27%) of business owners worked in this industry.

Outside of the capital cities, two SA4s had high proportions of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services: the Gold Coast (11%) and the Sunshine Coast (10%), in Queensland. These business owners mainly provided accounting, computer system design and management advisory services.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY, Highest SA4s(a)(b) - 2011

Top 10 SA4s	%
Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (NSW)	27
Melbourne - Inner (Vic.)	25

Brisbane Inner City (Qld.)	25
Perth - Inner (WA)	24
Sydney - Eastern Suburbs (NSW)	24
Sydney - City and Inner South (NSW)	23
Melbourne - Inner East (Vic.)	21
Brisbane - West (Qld.)	20
Melbourne - Inner South (Vic.)	19
Sydney - Inner West (NSW)	19

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(b) Statistical Areas level 4 are defined in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, 2011. See explanatory notes for more information.

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011.

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Business Owners in the States and Territories

3. BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE STATES AND TERRITORIES

- 3.1 New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory
- 3.2 Victoria
- 3.3 Queensland
- 3.4 South Australia
- 3.5 Western Australia
- 3.6 Tasmania
- 3.7 Northern Territory

New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

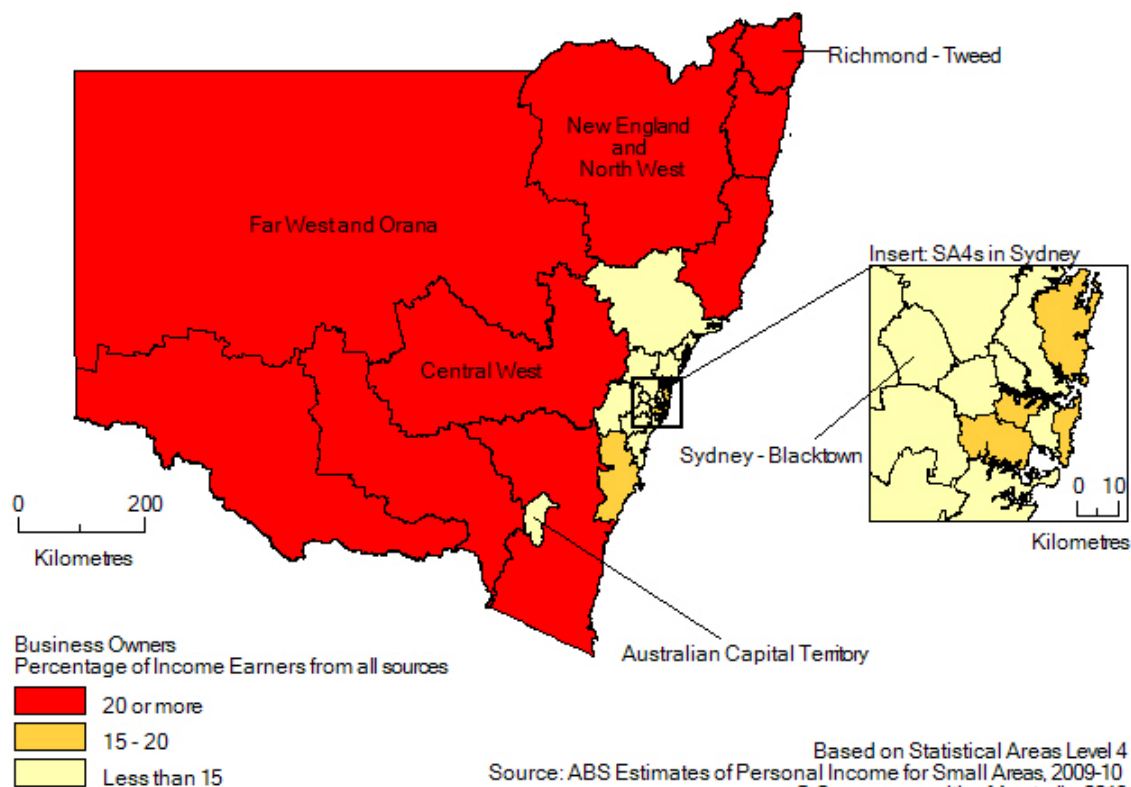
BUSINESS OWNERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The following analysis includes the Australian Capital Territory and SA4s in New South Wales.

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

In 2009-2010, the proportion of income earners who were business owners ranged from 10% to 27% in SA4s. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners were New England and North West, with 27%, followed by Far West and Orana, Richmond - Tweed and Central West with 24%. Sydney - Blacktown had the lowest proportion of business owners in New South Wales, with 10%. The Australian Capital Territory also had a low proportion of business owners, with 10%.

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, the contribution of income from unincorporated businesses to total income from all sources in SA4s ranged from 4% to 9%. The SA4s in which income from unincorporated businesses made the highest contributions were Sydney - Eastern Suburbs, Richmond - Tweed and Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (9%). Hunter Valley exc Newcastle, Sydney - Blacktown and Sydney - Outer South West had the lowest contributions with 4%. At 4%, the Australian Capital Territory was among the regions where income from unincorporated businesses made a low contribution to total income from all sources.

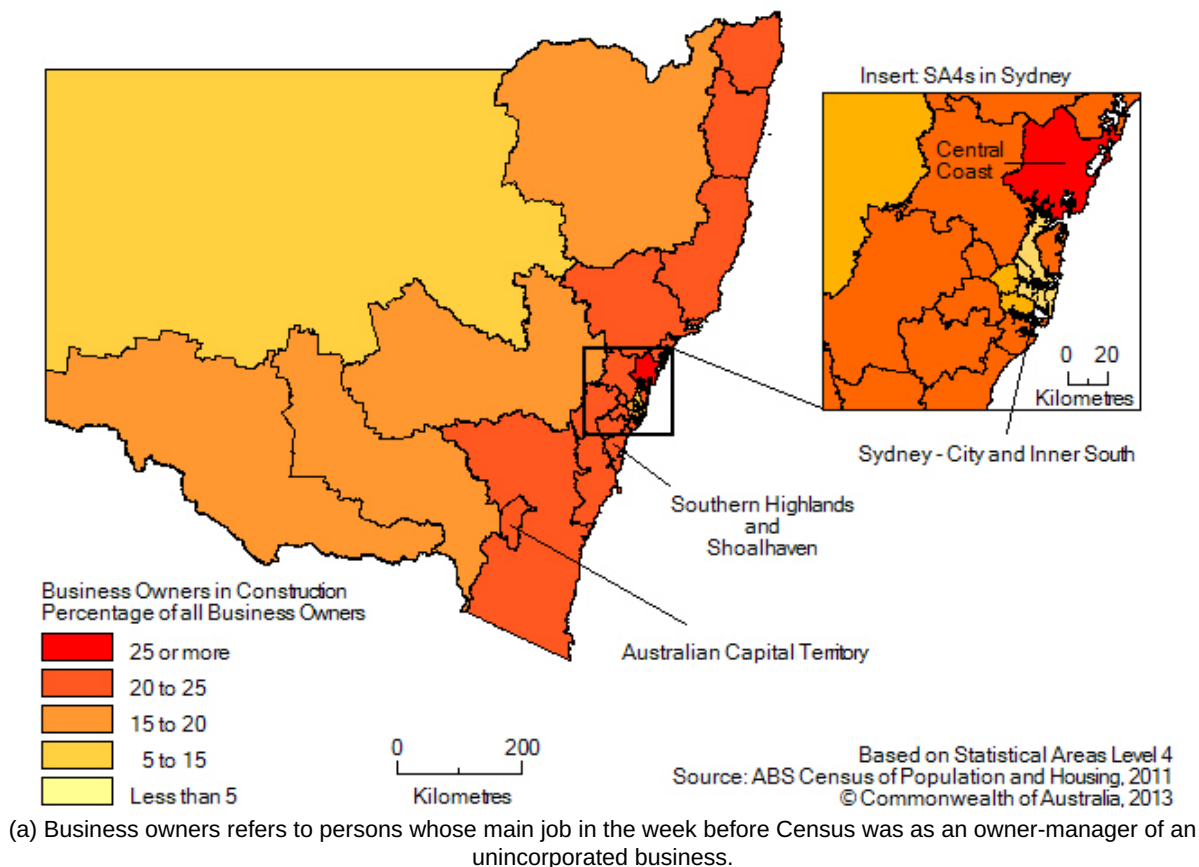
WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

In 2011, business owners in New South Wales tended to work in the same industries as business owners across Australia. Construction was the main industry of employment for business owners in many SA4s in Greater Sydney and the rest of New South Wales. There were regional differences in business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services. Other industries that contributed to the diversity of business ownership in SA4s included retail trade, transport, postal and warehousing, health care and social assistance and other services.

Construction

In 2011, between 8% and 26% of business owners in SA4s in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory worked in construction. Central Coast (26%) and Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven (24%) had the highest proportions of business owners in construction. The Australian Capital Territory also had a high proportion of business owners in construction with 24%. Sydney - City and Inner South had the lowest proportion with 8%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY(a), New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory - 2011



Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people employed in the construction industry in New South Wales increased by 8%. However, business ownership in the construction industry decreased in most SA4s. Sydney - South West and Central West had the largest decrease with 10%, while Sydney - Northern Beaches had the smallest decrease of 1%. Three SA4s experienced an increase in the number of business owners working in construction; the largest increase was 9% in Sydney - City and Inner South.

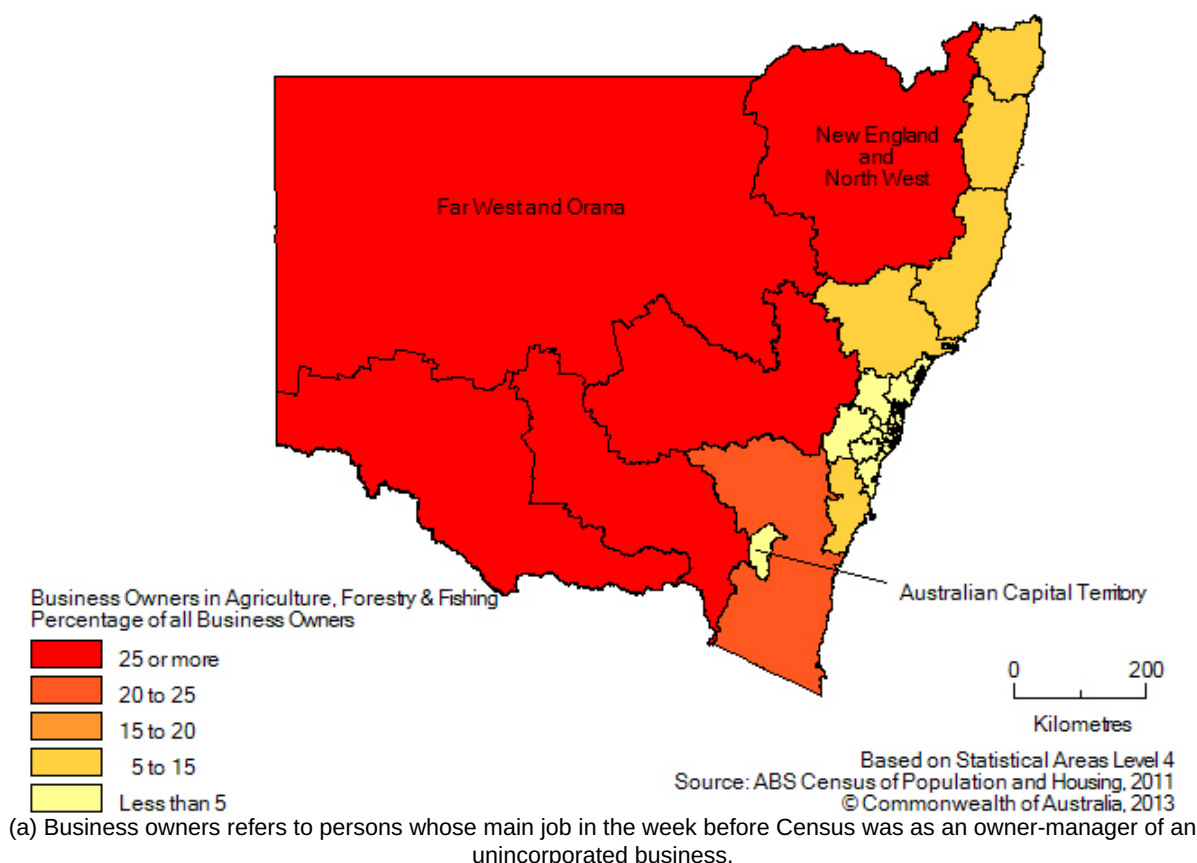
In the Australian Capital Territory, the number of people employed in the construction industry increased by 25% between 2006 and 2011. As in New South Wales, however, this increase was not reflected among business owners, whose number decreased by 12% during the period.

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, the proportions of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing were highest in SA4s in the rest of New South Wales. Far West and Orana had the highest proportion of business owners working in agriculture, forestry and fishing with 39%, followed by New England and North West with 35%. The Australian Capital Territory was among the regions with a low proportion of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing, with 1%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY(a), New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory - 2011



Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased in all SA4s in New South Wales. Among SA4s outside Greater Sydney, the decrease in the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing ranged from 6% in Far West and Orana to 25% in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. The decrease in the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing reflected an overall decrease in the number of people working in this industry in New South Wales, which fell by 12%.

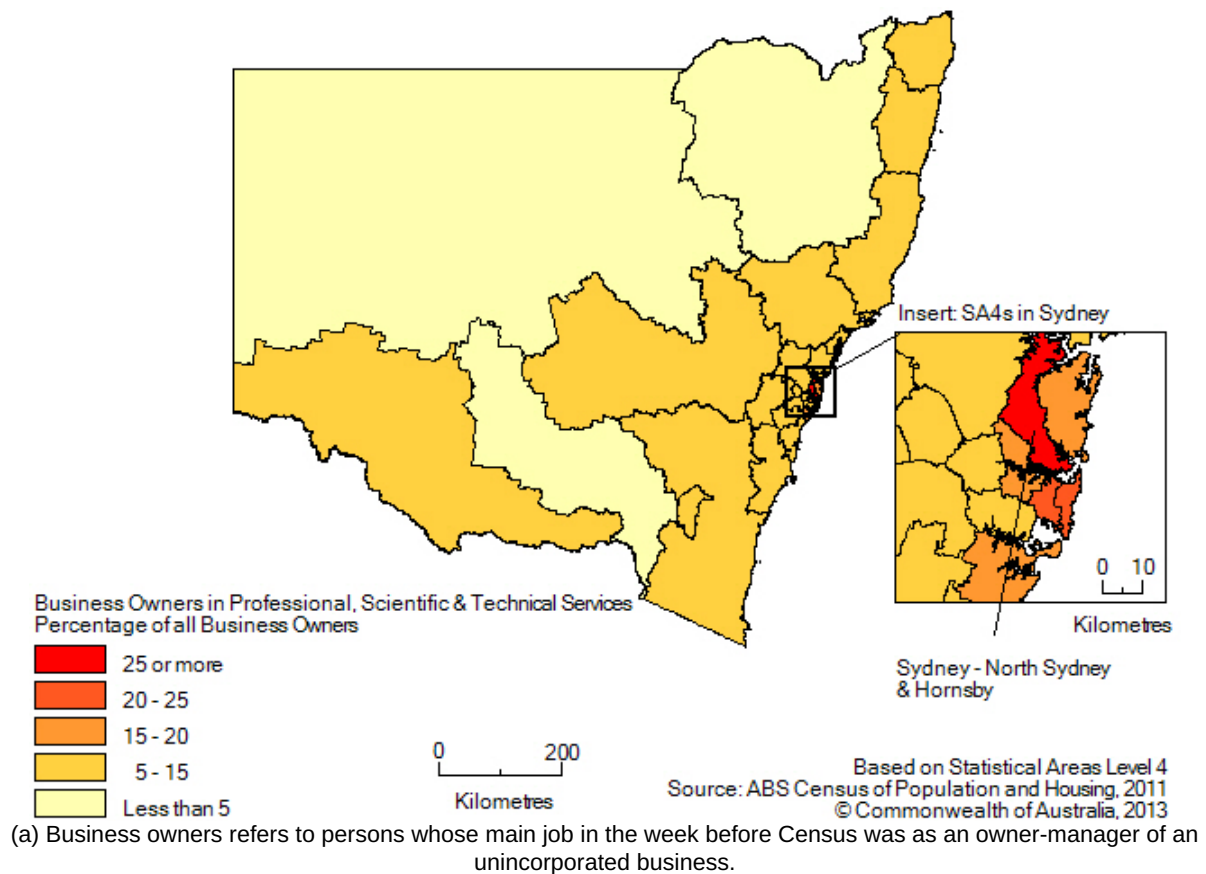
In the Australian Capital Territory, the number of people employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 28% between 2006 and 2011 and there was a similar decrease (27%) in the number of business owners working in this industry.

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Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

In 2011, between 4% and 27% of business owners in SA4s in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory worked in the professional, scientific and technical services industry, with the largest proportions in SA4s in Greater Sydney. Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby was highest, with 27%, followed by Sydney - Eastern Suburbs with 24%. The Australian Capital Territory, with 14%, also had a high proportion of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY(a), New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory - 2011



Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people employed in professional, scientific and technical services increased in both New South Wales (16%) and the Australian Capital Territory (14%). Similarly, the number of business owners increased in almost all of the SA4s in New South Wales. Sydney - City and Inner South had the largest increase of 30%, followed by Sydney - South West (24%) and Mid North Coast (21%). Two regions experienced a decrease in the number of business owners in this industry: Riverina (10%) and Murray (2%).

In the Australian Capital Territory, the number of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services increased by 2% between 2006 and 2011.

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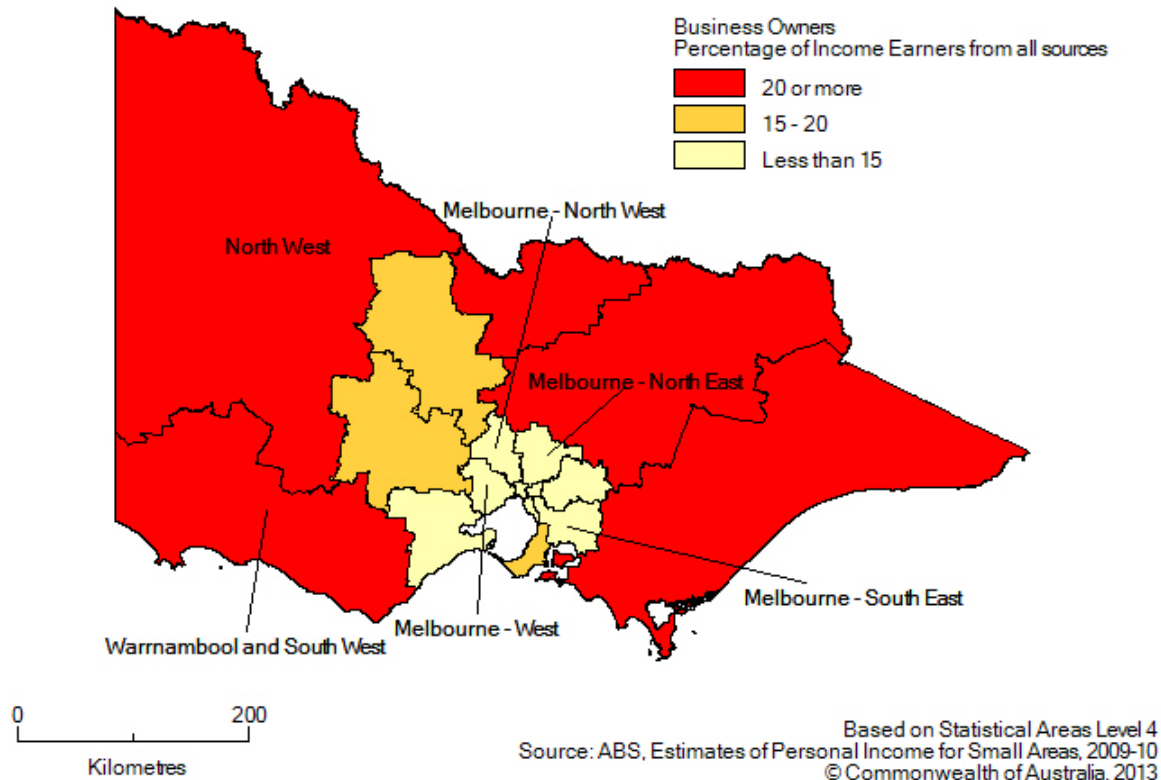
Victoria

BUSINESS OWNERS IN VICTORIA

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

In 2009-10, business owners represented between 11% and 27% of income earners in SA4s in Victoria, with higher proportions of business owners in the rest of Victoria than in Greater Melbourne. North West (27%) had the highest proportion of business owners followed by Warrnambool and South West with 26%. Melbourne - West had the lowest proportion of business owners with 11%, followed by Melbourne - North East, Melbourne - North West and Melbourne - South East with 13%.

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, Victoria - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-10, income from unincorporated businesses contributed between 4% and 9% to total income from all sources in SA4s in Victoria. Income from unincorporated businesses made the highest contribution to total income from all sources in Warrnambool and South West and Melbourne - Inner East (both 9%) and the lowest contribution in Shepparton and Melbourne - West (4%).

WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

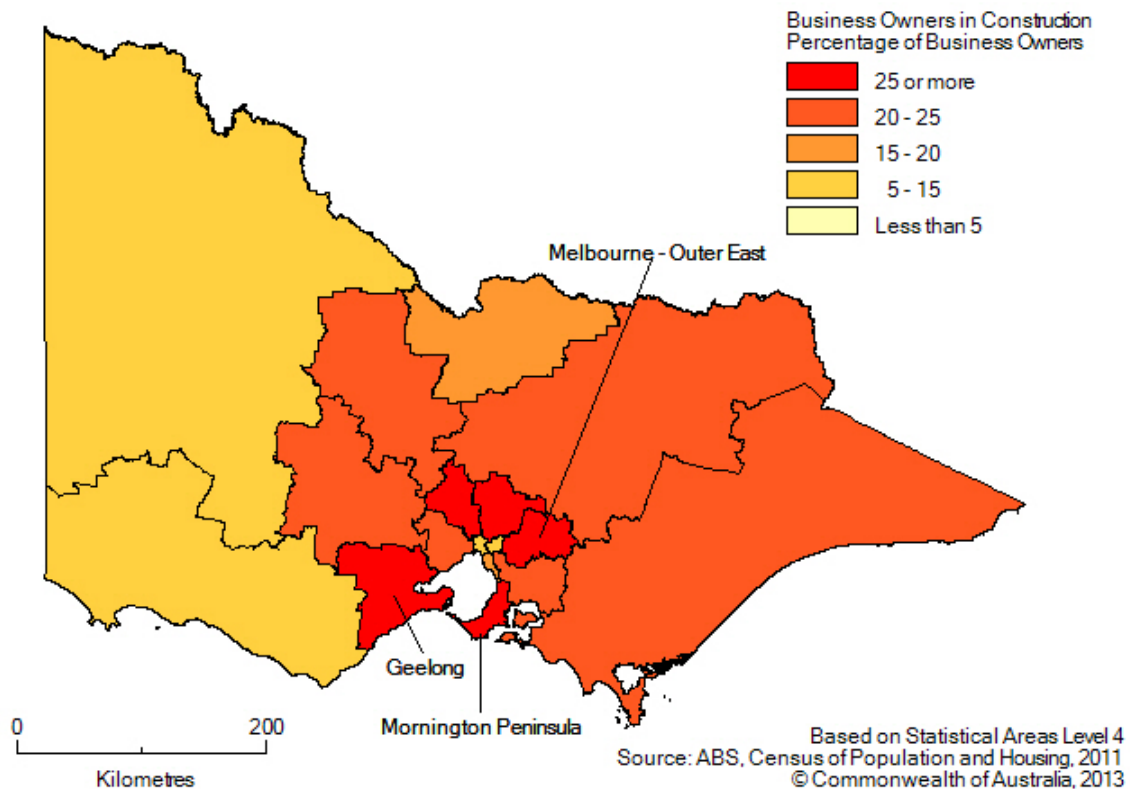
In 2011, business owners in Victoria mainly worked in similar industries to business owners across Australia. Construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services were the three main industries of employment for business owners in Victoria. Professional, scientific and technical services was the main industry in the 3 SA4s located in inner Melbourne. Construction was the main industry of employment among business owners in outer Melbourne, Mornington Peninsula and the regional centres of Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong. Agriculture, forestry and fishing was the main industry in the remaining 5 SA4s in Victoria. Across the state, 7% of business owners worked in retail trade and there was little difference in proportion among SA4s. The proportions of business owners who worked in the other services industry were between 6% and 11 % in SA4s throughout Victoria, providing necessary services such as hairdressing and beauty services, automotive repair and maintenance and other personal services.

Construction

In 2011, business owners in the construction industry represented between 9% and 31% of business owners in SA4s in Victoria. Most of the SA4s with higher proportions of business owners in construction were located in Greater Melbourne, including Mornington Peninsula (31%) and Melbourne - Outer East (29%), which had the highest proportions. Outside of Greater Melbourne, Geelong had the highest proportion of business owners working in construction, with 26%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Victoria

- 2011



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

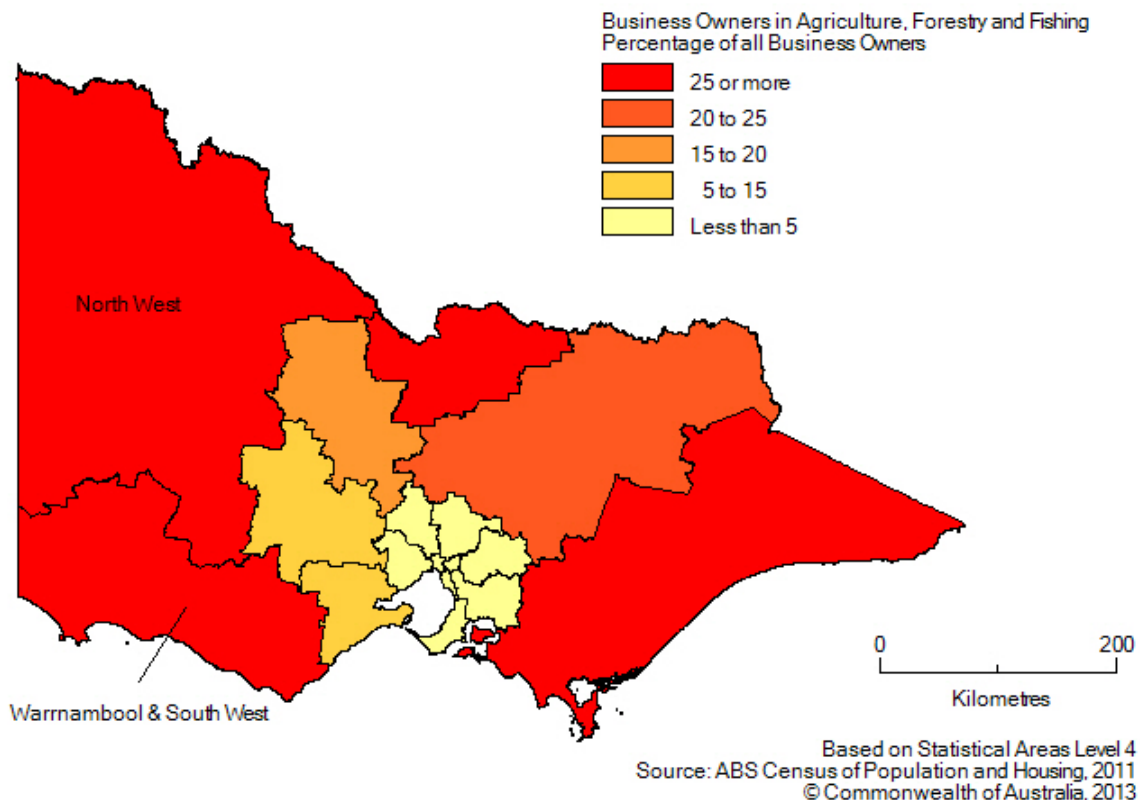
Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people working in construction in Victoria increased by 23% from 2006 to 2011. The number of business owners in this industry increased in most SA4s, but by a smaller amount. Melbourne - West had the largest increase with 13%, followed by Melbourne - North West, with 11%. The number of business owners in construction decreased in 5 SA4s: Melbourne - Inner East (by 7%), Shepparton and Warrnambool and South West (by 6%) and North West and Melbourne - Outer East (by 4%).

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, up to 45% of business owners in Victoria's SA4s worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing. Warrnambool and South West had the highest proportion of business owners in this industry with 45%, followed by North West with 43%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Victoria - 2011



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

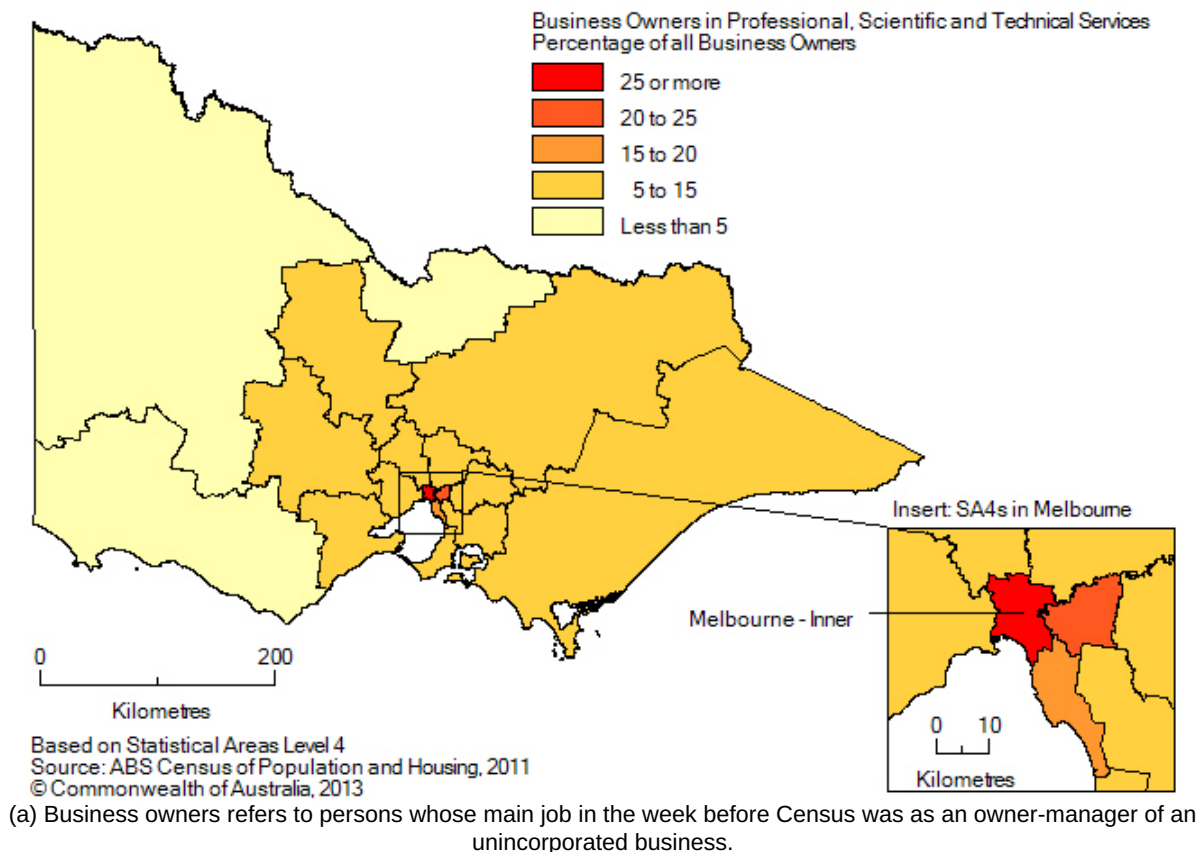
Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners working in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased in all SA4s in Victoria. Melbourne - North East had the largest decrease of 36% (from 219 to 140), while Melbourne - Inner South and Melbourne - Inner had the smallest decrease of 6%. Among SA4s located in the rest of Victoria, where rates of business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing were higher, decreases over the period ranged from 13% in Hume to 32% in Shepparton. This reflected an overall decrease in the number of people working in agriculture, forestry and fishing in Victoria, which decreased by 10% during the period.

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Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

In 2011, between 3% and 25% of business owners in Victorian SA4s worked in professional, scientific and technical services, with higher proportions in SA4s in Greater Melbourne. The proportion of business owners in professional, scientific and technical services was highest in Melbourne - Inner with 27%, followed by Melbourne - Inner East with 21%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Victoria - 2011



In Victoria, the number of people employed in the professional, scientific and technical services industry grew by 21% between 2006 and 2011. This growth was reflected in the number of business owners in the industry, which increased in all SA4s in Victoria. The biggest growth was in capital city regions and Melbourne - West had the largest increase (42%), followed by Melbourne - North West (31%) and Mornington Peninsula (30%) in south eastern Melbourne.

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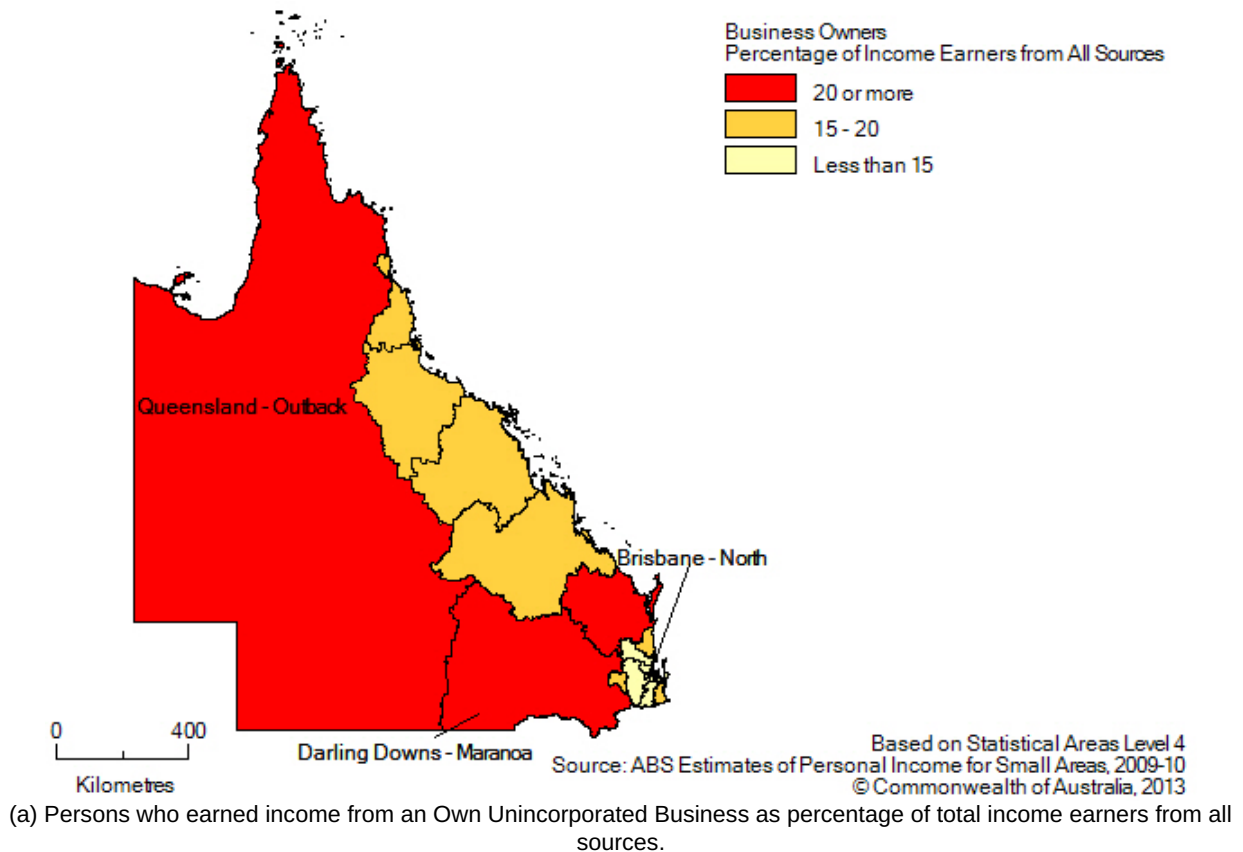
Queensland

BUSINESS OWNERS IN QUEENSLAND

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

In 2009-2010, business owners represented between 11% and 32% of income earners in SA4s in Queensland. The highest proportions of business owners were found in Darling Downs - Maranoa (32%) and Queensland - Outback (22%), while Brisbane - North had the lowest proportion (11%).

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, Queensland- 2009-10



HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, total income from unincorporated businesses contributed between 2% and 8% to total income from all sources in SA4s in Queensland. The SA4s with the highest contributions of unincorporated business income were Brisbane Inner City and Sunshine Coast (both 8%). Darling Downs - Maranoa had the lowest contribution with 2%.

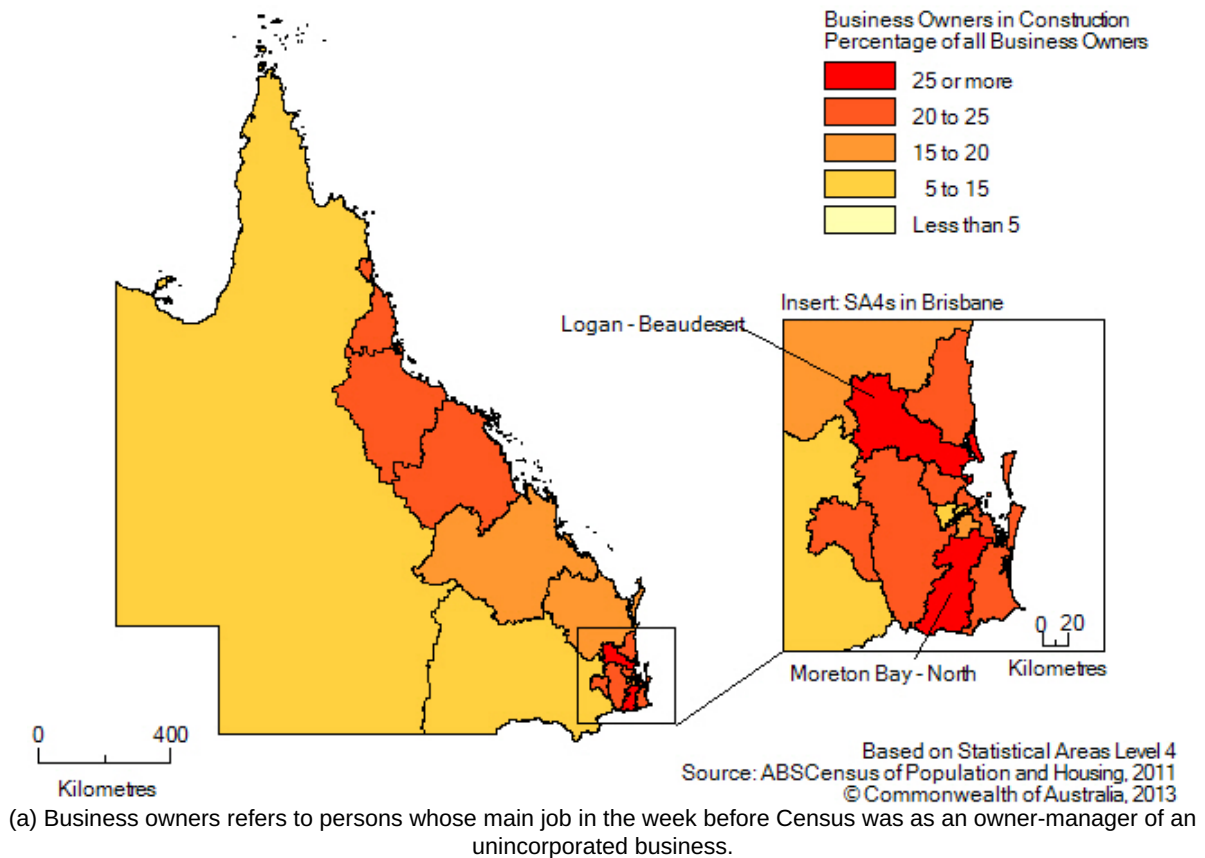
WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

In 2011, business owners in Queensland tended to work in similar industries to business owners across Australia. The main industries of business ownership in SA4s in Queensland were construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services. Construction was the main industry of employment for business owners in 13 of the 19 SA4s in Queensland. Rates of business ownership in professional, scientific and technical services tended to be higher in SA4s in greater Brisbane, while rates of business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing were higher in SA4s in the rest of Queensland. The proportion of business owners working in retail trade and other services varied little among SA4s throughout Queensland, providing necessary services such as local shops, hairdressers and mechanics in all regions.

Construction

In 2011, between 10% and 30% of business owners in SA4s in Queensland worked in construction. Logan - Beaudesert (30%) and Moreton Bay - North (28%) had the highest proportions, while Brisbane Inner City had the lowest proportion (10%). The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in construction were all located in greater Brisbane.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Queensland - 2011



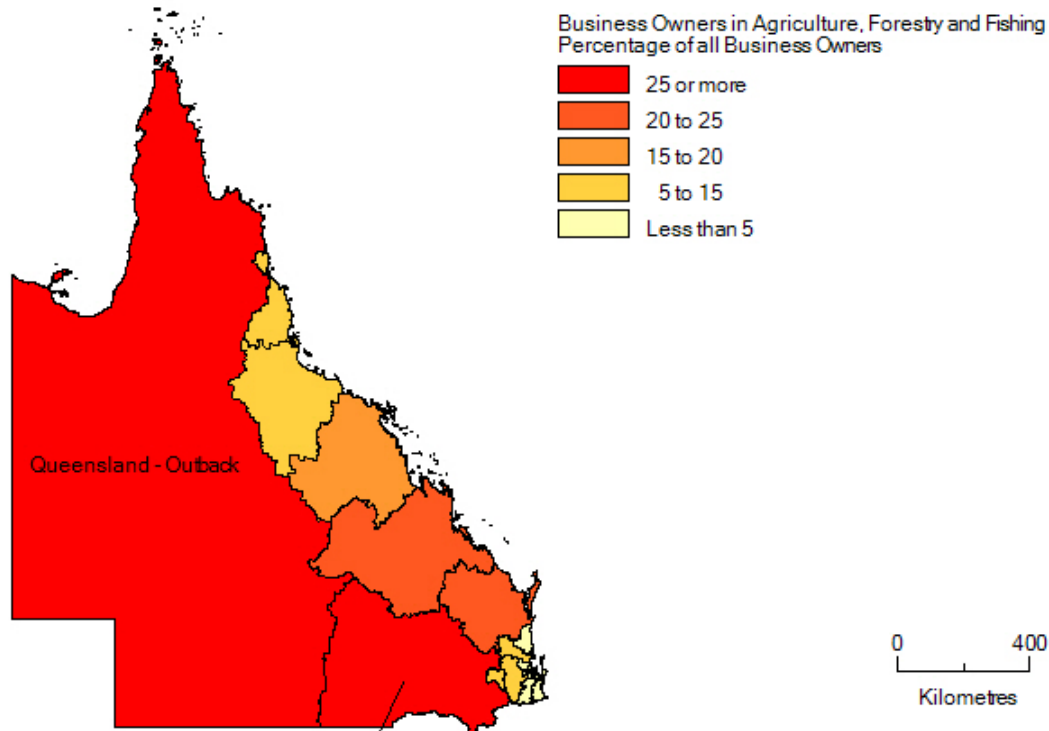
The number of people employed in construction increased by 11% in Queensland between 2006 and 2011. However, this growth was not reflected in business ownership and the number of business owners in construction decreased in most SA4s in Queensland. Brisbane - South had the largest decrease with 14%, while Mackay had the smallest decrease with 1%. The number of business owners in construction increased in 3 SA4s: Ipswich (1%), Darling Downs - Maranoa (3%) and Queensland - Outback (11%).

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, up to 46% of business owners in SA4s in Queensland worked in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry. Darling Downs - Maranoa had the highest proportion of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing with 46%, followed by Queensland - Outback with 39%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Queensland - 2011



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

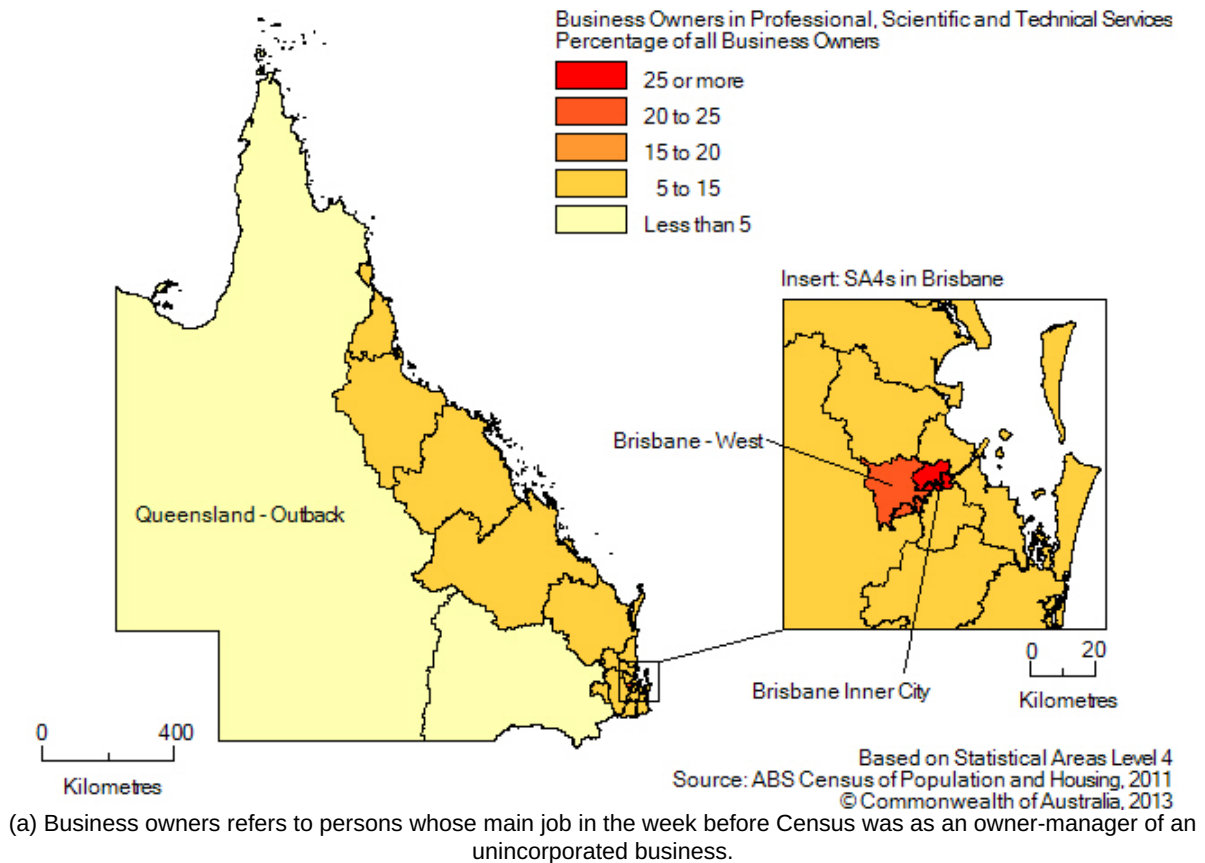
Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased in all SA4s in Queensland, reflecting a decrease in overall employment in this industry in Queensland of 10%. Of the SA4s located in the rest of Queensland, Sunshine Coast experienced the largest decrease in the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing (31%), while Queensland - Outback and Moreton Bay - North had the smallest decrease of 12%.

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Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

In 2011, business owners working in professional, scientific and technical services represented between 2% and 25% of the business owners in SA4s in Queensland. Brisbane Inner City (25%) and Brisbane - West (20%) had the highest proportions of business owners in this industry, while Queensland - Outback had the lowest proportion (2%).

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Queensland - 2011



In Queensland, the number of people working in professional, scientific and technical services increased by 30% between 2006 and 2011. Similarly, the number of business owners who worked in this industry increased in most regions, from 5% in Brisbane - South to 33% in Moreton Bay - South. The number of business owners working in professional, scientific and technical services decreased by 4% in both Queensland - Outback and Brisbane - West.

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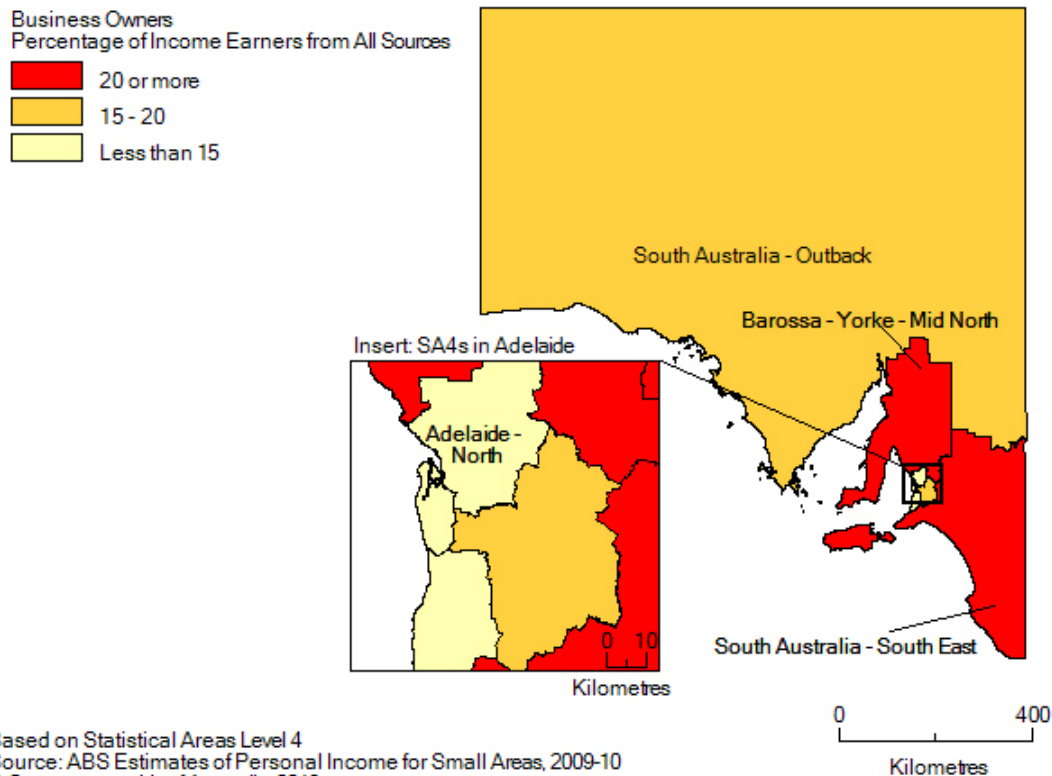
South Australia

BUSINESS OWNERS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

In 2009-2010, business owners made up between 12% and 27% of income earners in SA4s in South Australia. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners were Barossa - Yorke - Mid North and South Australia - South East with 27% followed by South Australia - Outback with 19%. Adelaide - North had the lowest proportion of business owners with 12%.

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, South Australia- 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, income from unincorporated businesses contributed between 5% and 10% to total income from all sources in SA4s in South Australia. The SA4s with the highest contribution of income from unincorporated businesses were Barossa - Yorke - Mid North, Adelaide - Central and Hills and South Australia - South East. Adelaide - North had the lowest contribution with 5%.

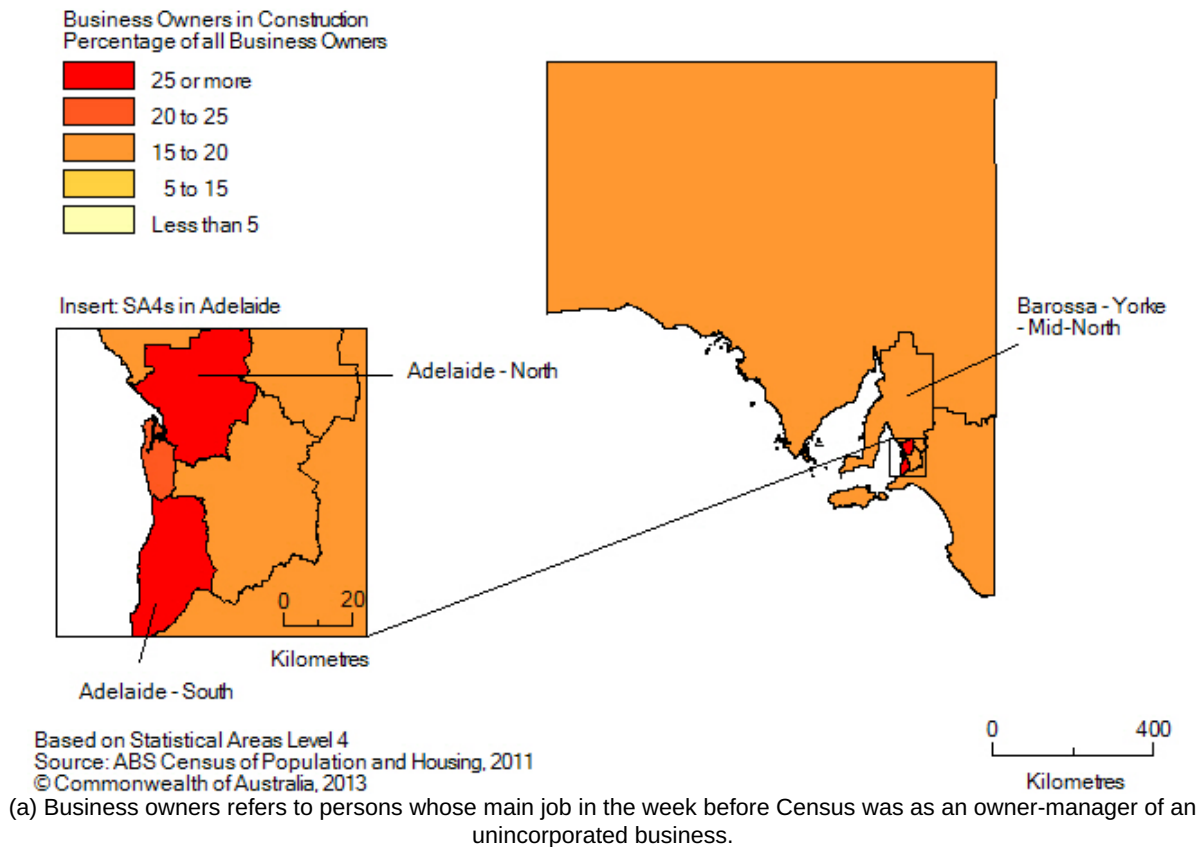
WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

Similar to Australia, the main industries of employment for business owners in South Australian SA4s in 2011 were construction and agriculture, forestry and fishing. Construction was the main industry in which business owners worked in the 4 SA4s in greater Adelaide, while agriculture, forestry and fishing was the main industry in the 3 SA4s in the rest of South Australia. The third most common industry of employment for business owners in South Australia was other services, which mostly included businesses owned by hairdressers and mechanics.

Construction

In 2011, between 16% and 27% of business owners in SA4s in South Australia worked in construction. Adelaide - North and Adelaide - South, both with 27%, had the highest proportion of business owners working in construction, while Barossa - Yorke - Mid North had the lowest proportion with 16%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), South Australia - 2011



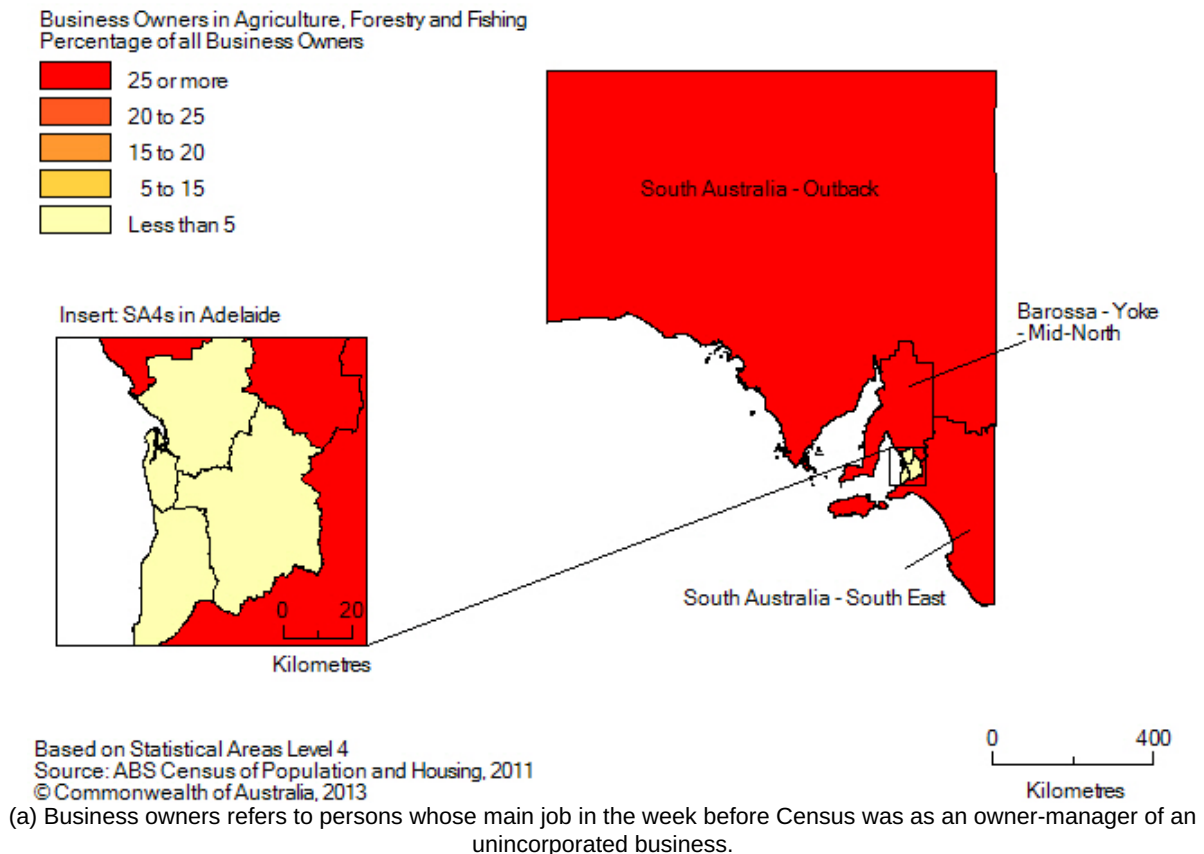
Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people who worked in construction in South Australia increased by 21%. The number of business owners in the construction industry increased in 4 out of the 7 SA4s in South Australia; however the growth among business owners was smaller than that of the overall working population. Adelaide - South had the largest increase in the number of business owners working in construction (8%), followed by Adelaide - West (6%). The number of business owners in construction decreased in 3 SA4s, including a 6% decrease in Adelaide - Central and Hills.

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, business owners working in agriculture, forestry and fishing represented between 1% and 37% of business owners in SA4s in South Australia, with low proportions in greater Adelaide and higher proportions in the rest of South Australia. Over a third of business owners in Barossa - Yorke - Mid North (37%), South Australia - Outback (34%) and South Australia - South East (33%) worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), South Australia - 2011



Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners who worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased in almost all of the SA4s in South Australia, reflecting a statewide decrease of 10% in the number of people employed in this industry. South Australia - South East had the largest decrease in the number of business owners employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing, of 21%, while Barossa - Yorke - Mid North had the smallest decrease of 15%. With an increase of 5%, Adelaide - North was the only SA4 where business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing increased during the 5 year period.

Other Services

In 2011, between 7% and 11% of business owners in SA4s in South Australia worked in the other services industry. Adelaide - West and Adelaide - North had the largest proportion (both 11%), while Barossa - Yorke - Mid North had the lowest proportion (7%).

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners working in other services increased in all SA4s, with the largest increase in Adelaide - North (15%). This reflected an overall increase of 10% in the number of people working in this industry in South Australia.

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Western Australia

BUSINESS OWNERS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

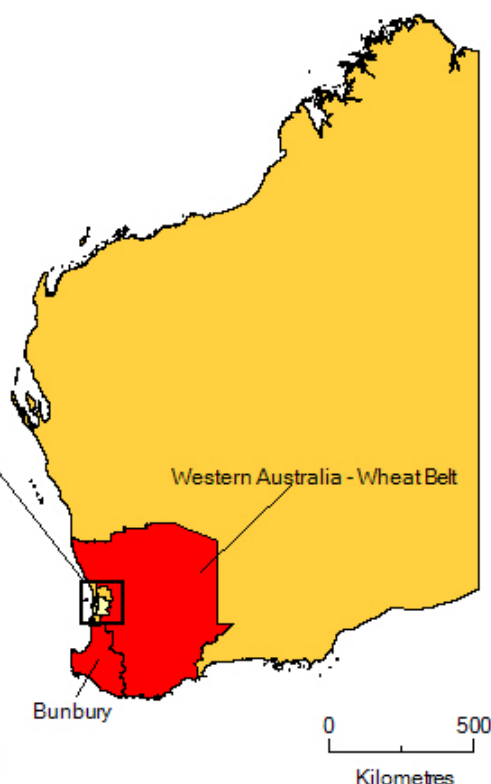
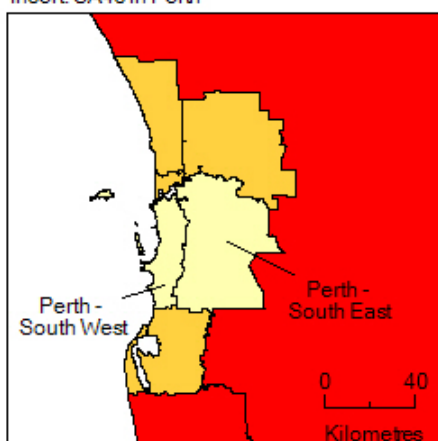
In 2009-2010, business owners made up between 13% to 31% of income earners in SA4s in Western Australia. Western Australia - Wheat Belt had the highest proportion of business owners with 31% followed by Bunbury with 21%. Perth - South East and Perth - South West had the lowest proportion of business owners with 13%.

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, Western Australia- 2009-10

Business Owners
Percentage of Income Earners from All Sources



Insert: SA4s in Perth



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-10
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, the contribution of income from unincorporated businesses to total income from all sources ranged from 6% to 11% in SA4s in Western Australia. Western Australia - Wheat Belt had the highest contribution of income from unincorporated businesses with 11%. The SA4s with the lowest contribution of income from unincorporated businesses were Western Australia - Outback, Perth - South East, Perth - North East, Perth - South West and Mandurah with 6%.

WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

Similar to the rest of Australia, construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services were the main industries of employment for business owners in Western Australian SA4s in 2011. Construction was the main industry of employment for business owners in most SA4s in greater Perth and the rest of Western Australia. Business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing and professional, scientific and technical services reflected clear regional variations. The level of business ownership in retail trade and other services was similar throughout Western Australia, providing necessary services such as local shops, hairdressers and mechanics.

Construction

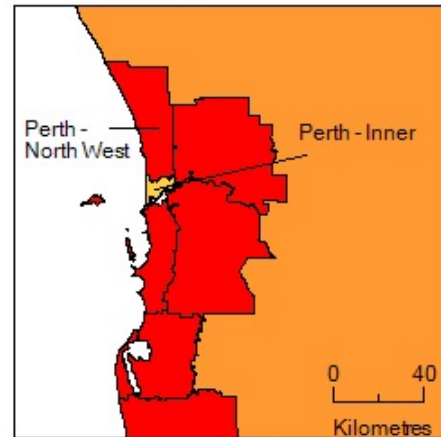
In 2011, between 10% and 34% of business owners in SA4s in Western Australia worked in construction. The SA4s with the highest proportions of business owners in construction were Mandurah (34%) and Perth - North West (31%). Perth - Inner had the lowest proportion of business owners in construction with 10%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Western Australia - 2011

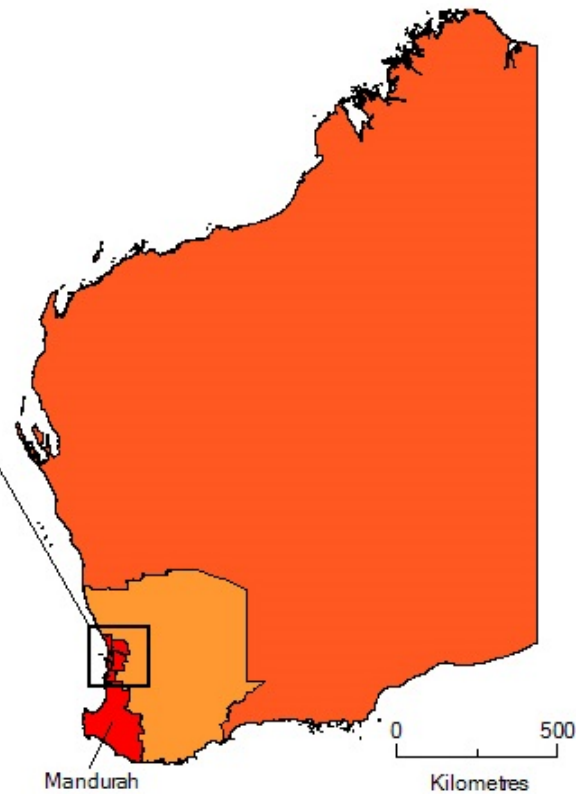
OUB Owners, in Construction
Percentage of All OUB Owners



Insert: SA4s in Perth



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in construction increased in 5 of the 9 SA4s in Western Australia. The increase in business ownership in construction ranged from 2% in Perth - North East to 11% in Western Australia - Outback. Business ownership in construction decreased in four SA4s, with the biggest decrease in Perth - Inner (5%). Although the number of business owners working in construction varied among SA4s over this period, the number of people working in construction increased in Western Australia by 31%.

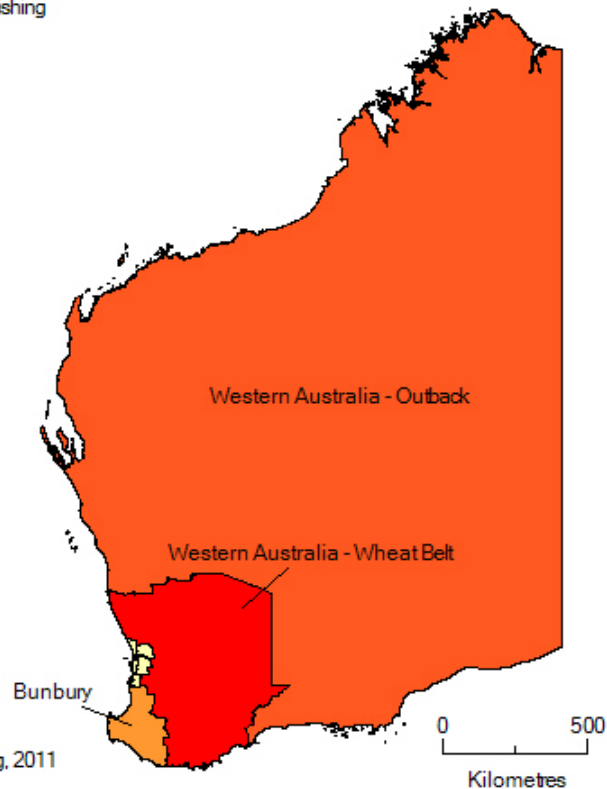
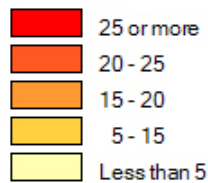
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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, between 1% and 42% of business owners in SA4s in Western Australia worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing. The highest proportions were found in Western Australia - Wheat Belt (42%), Western Australia - Outback (20%) and Bunbury (15%).

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Western Australia - 2011

**Business Owners in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
Percentage of all Business Owners**



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of people employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 14% across Western Australia and, in a similar trend, the number of business owners working in the industry decreased in most SA4s in Western Australia. The decrease in business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing ranged from 7% in Mandurah (from 112 to 104) to 33% in Perth - North East (from 269 to 181). Perth - Inner was the only SA4 where the number of business owners in agriculture, forestry and fishing increased, up 22% (from 58 to 71).

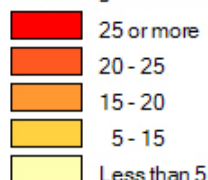
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Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

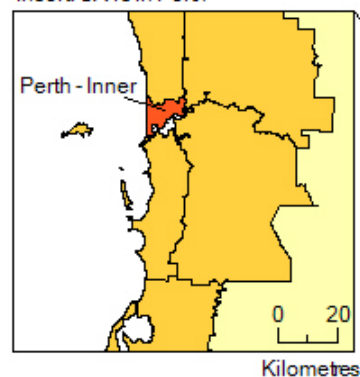
In 2011, the proportions of business owners in the professional, scientific and technical services industry ranged from 4%, in Western Australia - Wheat Belt, to 24% in Perth - Inner.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Western Australia - 2011

Business Owners in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Percentage of all Business Owners



Insert: SA4s in Perth



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

Between 2006 and 2011, there was a 34% increase in the number of people working in professional, scientific and technical services in Western Australia. The number of business owners who worked in this industry also increased in all SA4s in Western Australia. Perth - South West had the largest increase of 29%, while Perth - Inner had the smallest increase of 6%.

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Tasmania

BUSINESS OWNERS IN TASMANIA

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

In 2009-2010, business owners represented between 14% and 24% of income earners in SA4s in Tasmania. South East had the highest proportion of business owners with 24%, while Hobart had the lowest with 14%.

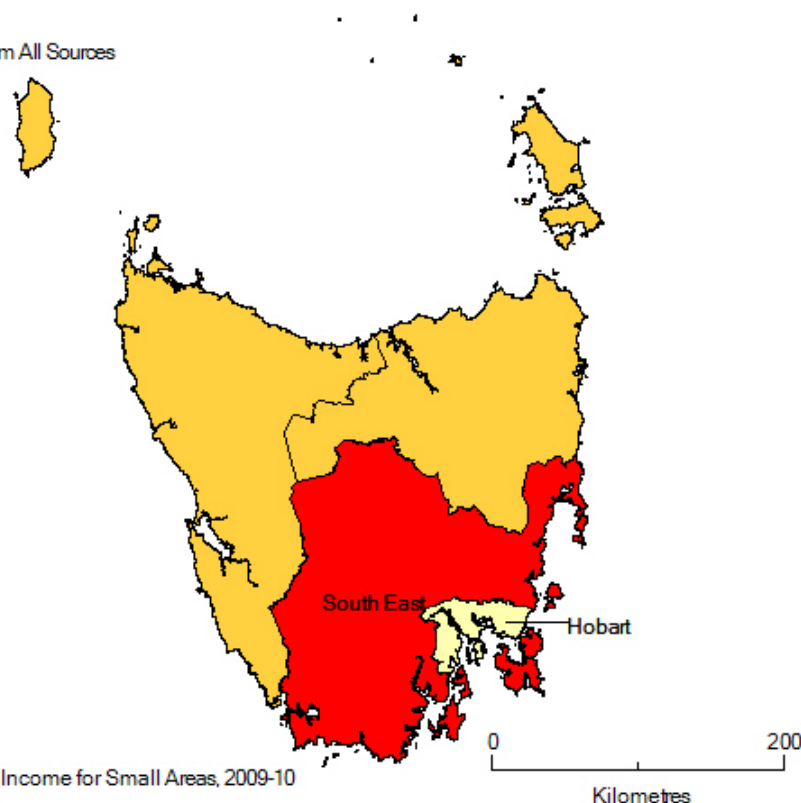
BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, Tasmania- 2009-10

Business Owners
Percentage of Income Earners from All Sources



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-10
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.



HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, the contribution of income from unincorporated businesses to total income from all sources ranged from 6% in West and North West and Launceston and North East to 9% in South East.

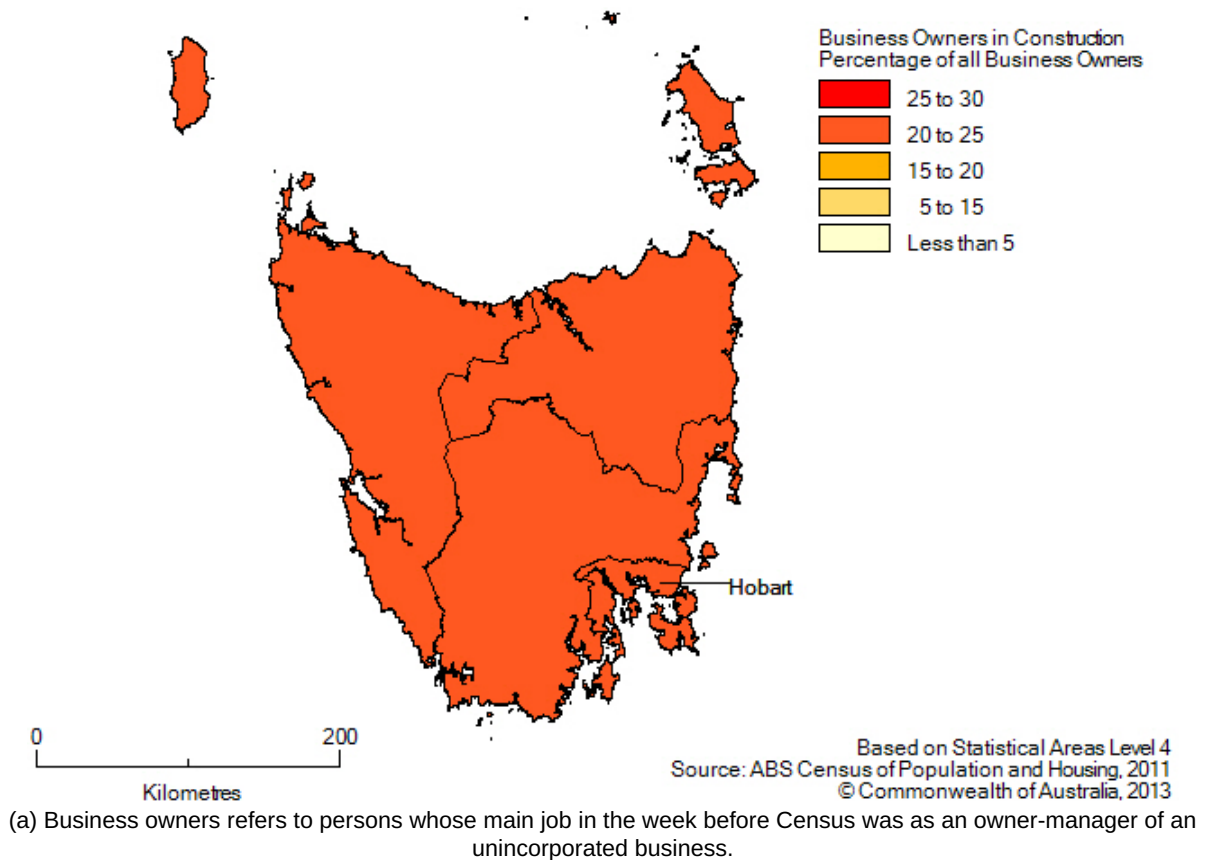
WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

In 2011, business owners in SA4s in Tasmania mainly worked in construction and agriculture, forestry and fishing. Compared to the rest of Australia, there were high proportions of business owners in construction in all Tasmanian SA4s and high rates of business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing in SA4s in the rest of Tasmania. Throughout Tasmania, levels of business ownership in retail trade and other services were similar across most SA4s.

Construction

In 2011, between 20% and 24% of business owners in SA4s in Tasmania worked in the construction industry. Hobart had the highest proportion of business ownership in construction, with 24%. In all of the SA4s in the rest of Tasmania, 20% of business owners worked in construction.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Tasmania - 2011



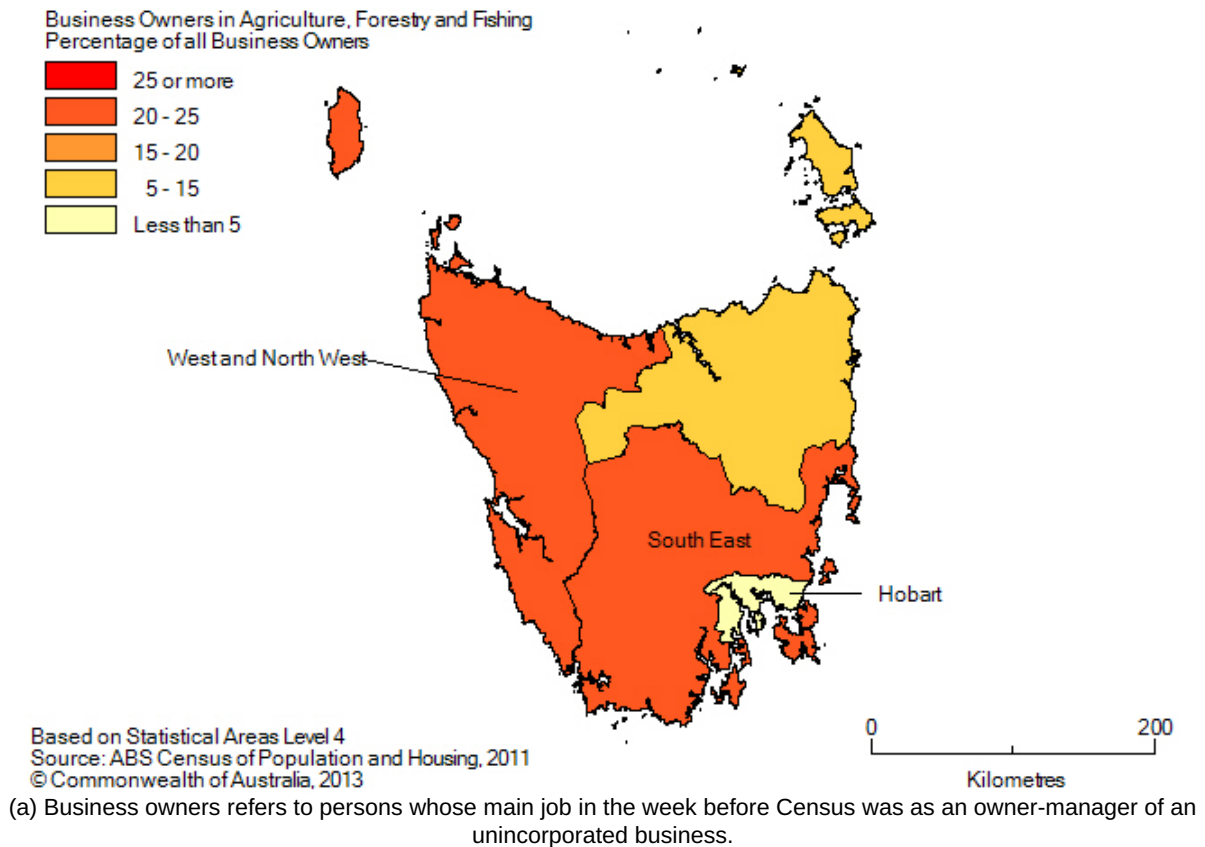
Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners in construction increased in all SA4s, reflecting the overall increase in the number of people employed in construction in Tasmania of 21%. South East had the largest increase in the number of business owners working in this industry, with 13%, while West and North West and Launceston and North East had the smallest with 1%.

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

In 2011, between 3% and 20% of business owners in SA4s in Tasmania worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing. Business ownership in agriculture, forestry and fishing was highest in South East and West and North West, with 20%, and lowest in Hobart, with 3%.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Tasmania - 2011



The number of people employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 9% in Tasmania between 2006 and 2011. Similarly, the number of business owners in the industry also decreased in all SA4s in Tasmania over the period. South East and West and North West had the largest decreases with 23%, while Hobart had the smallest decrease with 16%.

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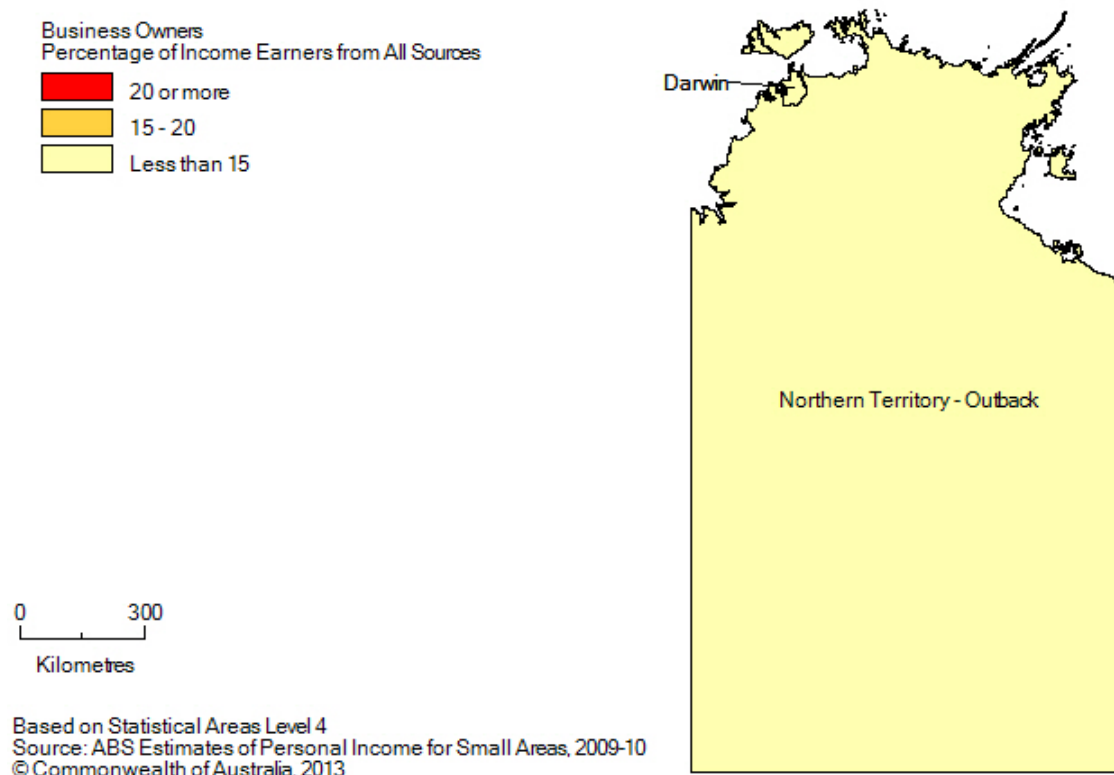
Northern Territory

BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WHERE DO BUSINESS OWNERS LIVE?

There are two SA4s in the Northern Territory, Darwin and Northern Territory - Outback. In 2009-2010, 12% of income earners in Darwin and 9% of income earners in Northern Territory - Outback were business owners.

BUSINESS OWNERS(a), Percentage of income earners by SA4, Northern Territory - 2009-10



(a) Persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business as percentage of total income earners from all sources.

HOW MUCH DOES UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME CONTRIBUTE TO INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES?

In 2009-2010, the contribution of income from unincorporated businesses to total income from all sources was 5% in Darwin and 3% in Northern Territory - Outback.

WHAT INDUSTRIES DO BUSINESS OWNERS WORK IN?

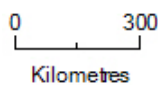
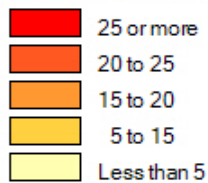
Like many regions throughout Australia, construction was the main industry in which business owners in SA4s in the Northern Territory worked in 2011. Other industries with high rates of business ownership were agriculture, forestry and fishing, professional, scientific and technical services, and other services, such as hairdressing and beauty services, other automotive repair and maintenance, other personal services and other interest group services.

Construction

In 2011, 27% of business owners in Darwin and 22% of business owners in Northern Territory - Outback worked in construction.

PERCENTAGE OF BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY SA4(a), Northern Territory - 2011

Business Owners in Construction
Percentage of all Business Owners



Based on Statistical Areas Level 4
Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011
© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013



(a) Business owners refers to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

Between 2006 and 2011, the number of business owners who worked in construction increased in both Northern Territory - Outback (by 20%) and Darwin (by 5%). The growth in business owners working in construction was slower than the overall increase in the number of people in the Northern Territory who worked in construction, which grew by almost a third (32%) over the same period.

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Further Information

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

4.1 Further information

Further Information

FURTHER INFORMATION

This article has provided examples of how data on business owners from two different sources - Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas and the Census of Population and Housing - can be used to provide insights into a distinct group of workers in regional labour markets. This information is useful for regional planners and policy makers who seek to understand regional employment issues and support local businesses.

Business ownership can be analysed in various ways. One way is to look at the people who own and manage businesses, including owners of incorporated and unincorporated enterprises. Estimates of the number of owners of incorporated enterprises are available in Forms of Employment, Australia (cat. no. 6359.0) and in the Census. For more information about employment classifications, including the definition of self-employment and the differences between owners of incorporated and unincorporated businesses, see the Australian Status in Employment Classification (Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

Another way is to look at the number of businesses in a region, which is available in Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2008 to Jun 2012 (cat. no. 8165.0). This source found that of the 2.1 million businesses operating in 2009-10, over 600,000 (30%) were established as sole proprietors and just over 350,000 (17%) were partnerships. While many of these are likely to be unincorporated, it should be noted that Counts of Australian Businesses includes both incorporated and unincorporated businesses, and for that reason has not been used in this article.

Australia's employment estimates are available in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). Regional labour force data are available by statistical division in Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001). Regional labour force data will become available for SA4s in early 2014.

Articles on labour related topics are also regularly released in Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) and Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0). Other articles which use Census data to analyse a range of themes are available in Reflecting a Nation: Stories from the 2011 Census, 2012-2013 (cat. no. 2071.0).

The Perspectives on Regional Australia series provides data and analyses a range of issues that are important to regions across Australia - from the inner cities to the most remote areas. This article is part of a series looking at different aspects of human capital in regional labour markets. Other articles in the series cover such topics as the industries people in regions work in and non-school education. For more information, see the Regional Statistics Research and Information Articles page on the ABS website.

About this Release

This article is one of a series of regional perspectives articles which looks at different aspects of regional labour markets. This article focusses on the characteristics of people who own their own unincorporated business, the industries they work in and the income they earn from their business.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING

The Census aims to collect information about every person in Australia on Census Night, including where they live and work and the arrangements under which they work in their main job. In the Census, owners of unincorporated businesses are defined as "owner managers of an unincorporated business," which means people whose main job is to operate their own "business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. It includes those engaged independently in a profession or trade" (Census Dictionary, 2011, cat. no. 2901.0).

The 2011 Census data used in this article provides a snapshot of owners of unincorporated businesses in August, 2011. As well as identifying people who work in an unincorporated business as their main job, the Census provides information about people's age, gender and the industry they work in. The Census collects information about the incomes people earn; however, as this is total income and does not identify income from unincorporated businesses, income reported in the Census is not used in this article.

Data quality issues may arise when people do not adequately respond to Census questions. In 2011, approximately 5% of people did not state whether they were employed and, of those who did, less than half a percent (0.4%) did not state whether they worked in their own business or for someone else.

Census data presented in this article excludes overseas visitors and people aged under 15 years (as they are not considered part of the labour force) and may have been adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.

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ESTIMATES OF PERSONAL INCOME FOR SMALL AREAS

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas contains data collected when people submit a personal income tax assessment to the Australian Taxation Office. This data includes the number of income earners in regions, the amount of income earned and the sources of income, such as wages and salaries, income from unincorporated businesses and investments.

Income earners are a count of the people who earn income from a source included in Estimates of Personal Income. Some people who earn income are not included in Estimates of Personal Income data, such as people aged under 15 years, people who earn income but do not submit a personal income tax assessment (for example, if they earn below the tax-free threshold) and people who earn income from government pensions and allowances. In regions with a high proportion of income earners from these sources, the exclusion of these income earners may result in an overestimate of the proportion of business owners.

People who earn income from more than one source, such as people who earn a salary and also receive income from an unincorporated business, are counted in each relevant income category. This means that, unlike the Census, which identifies only business owners who manage a business as their main job, business owners identified in Estimates of Personal Income may carry out their business as a second job or source of supplementary income.

There is also a difference in timing between the two collections. The most recent Census data was collected in August, 2011. However, the most recent Estimates of Personal Income data refers to the 2009-10 financial year.

Income from unincorporated businesses is defined as "Own Unincorporated Business Income" and follows the ABS income standard (see Survey of Income and Housing Costs: User Guide (cat. no. 6553.0)). It includes the following items on the individual income tax return:

- Net business income (or loss);
- Distributions from partnerships and trusts for primary production (agricultural, forestry and fishing) activities;
- Distributions from partnerships for non-primary production activities; and
- Net personal services income.

Own Unincorporated Business Income excludes distributions from trusts for non-primary production activities as this income generally comes from a range of other activities (mainly investments). It also excludes the income of working directors/owners of incorporated businesses, whose income is included under wage and salary income.

For more information, see the explanatory notes of Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002).

Average incomes used in this article refer to the mean.

Estimates of Personal Income data used in this analysis may have been adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.

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DEFINING REGIONS - THE AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY STANDARD

This article looks at business ownership in Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) and Statistical Areas level 4 (SA4s).

GCCSAs are used to show the differences between Greater Capital City regions and the rest of each state or territory. The Greater Capital City regions are not limited to the built-up areas of the capital cities, but include the capital cities and the nearby small towns and rural areas whose populations are likely to work, shop or socialise in the capital cities. Thus, they are designed to represent a socio-economic definition of the capital cities. There are 16 spatial GCCSA regions: 8 regions representing each of the Australian State and Territory capital city socio-economic regions and 8 regions covering the rest of each State and Territory, except for the Australian Capital Territory which is a single GCCSA region. As the Australian Capital Territory is a single GCCSA, territory figures are used in this article. There is also a GCCSA region for the "Other Territories" of Jervis Bay, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Non-spatial GCCSA regions include Migratory - Offshore - Shipping and No Usual Address regions. People whose usual residence was in the Other Territories, Migratory - Offshore - Shipping and No Usual Address regions were included in the totals for Australia, but were not included in regional analysis presented in this article.

SA4s provide further breakdown of the GCCSA regions. SA4s were designed to provide sub-state socio-economic data, especially labour force data. An important aspect of their design was to include both the places where people live and where they work in these regions, so that SA4s could be used to represent labour markets or, where populations are small, groups of labour markets. There are 88 spatial SA4s in Australia, with a minimum of 100,000 residents. In metropolitan areas, SA4s tend to have between 300,000 and 500,000 residents; while in regional and remote areas they tend to have between 100,000 and 300,000 residents. There are non-spatial SA4s for Migratory - Offshore - Shipping and No Usual Address in each state and territory.

More information on the GCCSAs and SA4s is available in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, Australia, July 2011 (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001).

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